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Reminiscences of the Celestial Empire* 40 years ago.†

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Perhaps I ought to apologize for intruding upon a Literary and Scientific Association the reminiscences of years long gone by, which have no claim to be considered either literary or scientific. I think, in my own interests, I shall do well to reserve any reasons I may have to warrant such an intrusion till the end of what I have to say. Then you will certainly be in a better position to judge of them, and I hope I shall leave you in such an indulgent frame of mind as to induce you to think favourably of my attempt at introducing into your more serious considerations a little recreative matter. At least you will pardon me for my goodwill in contributing for your leisure moments some reflexions for amusement or profit as you may feel disposed to use them. I will say, however, at once that these reminiscences of the Celestial Empire have been thrown together without any order and just as they have recurred to my mind. You must not therefore expect any regular treatise on the subject. Such as it is, I now offer it for your acceptance.

In the days just before the great Mutiny, when there was only one railway in the Madras Presidency, and that only went from Madras to Goriattum, and only one electric cable in the world, and that lay under the sea between Liverpool and New York, and was then the eighth wonder of the world, my regiment was quartered in Perambore, Madras. I was, one eventful morning, that of 23rd February 1857, sitting in an easy-chair in my bungalow, thinking, I suppose, of how I should spend that day, forming plans for the disposal of the near future, or looking forward to the next cricket match I was to play. My reveries were disturbed by the cheery voice of our Commandant who called out, "Sewell, are you ready to start for China?" "China? Major!" I exclaimed springing to my feet—I was active then and had no rheumatism in my knees—"China! What do you mean?" "Just got an official from the Adjutant General," he replied. "There has been a row there and the four flank companies of the regiment with full complement of officers and

* From an address given April, 1900, to the College Literary and Scientific Association.

† Now 60 years ago.

men are under orders to embark in the *Zenobia* to-morrow. You go of course with your company." "Halloa! That's smart work! To-morrow! Oh, that's capital news!" I hardly knew how to express my delight. I was young.

It did not take long to make my arrangements and say good-bye to my friends who were full of congratulations on my luck! On the afternoon of the 24th February at 3 P.M., we marched down to the beach and embarked on board H.E.I.C. 6-gun paddle-wheel steam frigate, *Zenobia*. If you don't know who Zenobia was, you must look it up in your classical dictionaries, as I did then, and you will learn that she was a great Eastern Queen in her day, whose merits have long since been forgotten with those of so many other worthies of her time.

Well, we were pretty well cramped on board that good ship in which we spent the best part of a month. But we were going to rescue Hong-kong, and we were too pleased with the hopes of the fun, as young officers call fighting, to care much about discomfort. Nine officers had to make the best of the accommodation that the gun-room of the ship afforded. There were cabins with beds for four, and the rest, of whom I was one, had to do with the table or a sofa for beds. The men, poor fellows, were on deck, exposed to the weather, 400 between the fore and main masts and 40 on each paddle-box. How these did not get washed off by the rough weather we met in the China Sea I have never ceased wondering at: but they did not. A week after leaving Madras we sighted the island of Singapore and were soon sailing amongst the clusters of little tropical islands that crowd the waters of the Straits of Malacca as you approach its southern extremity.

At Singapore we were landed to give the men an opportunity of stretching their legs. Colonel Macleod commanding Singapore invited four of us to stay with him, and we found ourselves in clover. Singapore is a very pretty island with the houses of Europeans dotted about on the many little hills, or mounds, which rise like big anthills all over the island. The climate is very pleasant as the constant rain keeps the temperature low, notwithstanding its proximity to the Equator.

I had a little adventure in Singapore which may interest you. In Singapore at that time was a Mr. Alexander Brown, a fellow passenger of mine on my way out from England in 1853. He invited me to dinner. On the day appointed, I secured what is called in that country a tickagharry drawn by a little pony like your jutka ponies. About half an hour before dinner-time, having previously enquired where Mr. Brown lived and having been told it was only about ten minutes' drive, and the gharryman too saying he knew Mr. Brown's house, off I started. It was moonlight and we drove on and on, past many houses, across some open country, the little pony trotting ever on, till I looked at my watch and found half an hour was gone. Clearly I should be late for dinner. I questioned the gharryman. Mr. Brown's was close by! So on we went once more—quarter of an hour! five minutes more! "But where is Mr. Brown's house? They told me it was close by!" Finally, we turned off the road into a compound and began going up a steep road which wound round the hill. Halfway up, the pony stopped; the roads were heavy. I had to get out and help to turn the wheel round and push the gharry, which was unpleasant as it made me hot. At length we came in sight of the house, but there were few lights, which surprised me. Arrived at the door, I asked if Mr. Brown lived here. "Yes," was the answer, and I went in and was shown into the drawing-room. Thence I could hear the sound of knives and forks busy in the next room. After some five minutes, a folding-door opened and in walked a gentleman I had never seen before. "I came to Mr. Brown," I said. "I am Mr. Brown," was the laconic reply. "I am looking," I said, "for Mr. Alexander Brown." I faltered, "He invited me to dinner." "Oh! I see," observed the gentleman, with just a smile on his lips. "Mr. Alexander Brown

lives three miles at least from here. Where have you come from?" "From Col. Macleod's," I answered. "Why," he chuckled, "you must have passed the house on your way! Oh! that's pleasant." It was now past 8. "Mr. Brown dines at half past seven," I remarked. "Yes," said the fellow; "I'm afraid you'll be rather late for dinner." I thought under the circumstances he might have offered me some of his dinner; but he didn't. Having no more to say I got into the gharry in a bad temper, and the gharryman was directed by the servant where to go. We arrived there at 8-30, but as it was useless going in, I told the man to go back home. When we were half a mile from the house the pony dropped down and the man began to howl and cry that his pony was dead. By and by it got up, but could only crawl, so I set off on foot and walked home and found them all going to bed. When I told my story, they all laughed heartily; but they got me some dinner.

While we were in Singapore news came that H.M.S. *Inflexible* was ashore some twenty miles away and our ship *Zenobia* was sent to tow her off. So we spent ten days in Singapore, but at last got on board once more and started for Hong-kong.

Hitherto we had had a smooth sea and calm weather, but directly we rounded Cape Roumania, the S. E. point of the Malay Peninsula, and headed north, we came in for the full force of the N. E. Monsoon. The *Zenobia* was not a fast vessel, and with the wind and sea against her we did not make much way and were constantly shipping huge seas. Not very pleasant for the poor fellows on deck who found it very difficult to cook and had not much appetite to eat what was cooked.

A little experience I had may give you an idea of how useful it is to know how to hold on tight on board a ship. In a passenger ship the way below deck is generally by a broad staircase with banisters to hold on to, and it is easy to go up and down; but on board a man-of-war it is just a step-ladder at an angle of about 10 or 15 degrees with a brass pillar at the top to which is fastened a rope to hold on by as you go down. Going down this one day, I had just put a foot on the top step when there came a sudden lurch of the vessel. In an instant my feet slipped, and I went down in a sitting position, bump, bump, to the bottom much quicker than I meant. Happily I had hold of the rope, but it was not a tight hold. It ran through my hand and only broke the fall at the expense of my hand. What was most funny was that some quarter of an hour afterwards I was warning some of my brother-officers to take care, and shewing them how it all had happened; but just then another lurch came, and I repeated the experiment to the great amusement of all!!

I never saw such a rough sea or such enormous waves as on the morning we came in sight of Hong-kong, and took the pilot, a Chinaman, on board. It was rather an alarming sight as we lay to for the pilot with the huge ship rolling. We would be at one time down in the trough of a gigantic wave, which would come curling towards us high above our deck and seemed about to break over and swallow us, when all at once we found ourselves on its top and it had passed under us.

However, once round Green Island, a little island at the west end of Hong-kong, we were again in smooth water, and gradually came in full view of the city of Victoria, with its glistening white houses extending some half a mile up the side of the huge towering mountain called Victoria Peak, which is on the N W. of Hong-kong. A splendid harbour full of shipping opened out to view, some six or seven miles in length by three or four in breadth with the Kowlong Coast of China opposite. Saluting the *Calcutta*, 84-guns, Admiral Seymour's flagship, on we passed. She sent an officer on board to take us to our anchorage off the barracks—the splendid pile known as the Murray Barracks, which were to be my home for the next year or more. Once anchored we were soon ashore and were welcomed by the officers and lodged in the Murray Barracks

which we shared with them. We dined with them and were soon at home.

Hong-kong is an irregular-shaped island deeply indented with bays and creeks, lying just opposite to the mouth of the Canton river in 23° N. Lat., nearly the same latitude as Calcutta. It is about 9 miles long by 3 to 6 broad, more or less hilly, but rising on its north-west some 1,824 ft. into the Victoria Peak already mentioned. Victoria is a very neat, clean-looking town with houses in streets rising one behind the other for some distance up the side of Victoria Peak and with an equally dirty Chinese quarter to the West. There were three other stations with wooden barracks built in previous years for troops, but uninhabited when we arrived; one on the east of the island called Saiwan and prettily situated on the brow of a cliff overlooking the sea, Stanley on the south at the head of the pretty bay of the same name, and Aberdeen on the south-west of the island. The harbour opens out on the west to some four miles and narrows towards the east by the island curving northward to within half a mile or so of the mainland and forming a narrow strait called the Laimun Pass. The city possesses a Governor, a Chief Justice, many lawyers, and chiefly and above all, wealthy merchants of several nations, the merchant-princes of China as they were called, and no doubt they deserved their name. At times colossal sweeps of fortune were made, of which I will give you an instance.

The trade with India is opium and silk. When the Mutiny broke out in May 1857, one of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s opium clippers, which were built for speed, was lying in Calcutta. Jardine's agents bought up all the opium they could lay hands on in Calcutta, loaded up the *Fiery Cross* with it, and started off to Hong-kong. Stopping nowhere on the way she reached Hong-kong three days before the mail steamer. Remark there was no telegraph. The *Fiery Cross* anchored outside the Laimun Pass, and sent in a boat with letters to the head of the firm. I happened to be staying with him and he came into my room just as I was going to bed and told me of the outbreak at Meerut. It was night. He despatched his agents secretly to buy up all the opium in Victoria and ship it at once on board his up-country clipper. It started loaded with opium at daybreak for Shanghai. Next day the *Fiery Cross* steamed into Hong-kong harbour with the great news. It was too late for the other merchants. All the opium was gone up-country. Yes, and it was sold at enormous profit so that the firm cleared nearly £ 200,000 by the transaction. Such is the value of time in business.

Pardon my digression. I must go back to my description of Hong-kong. Besides the Governor, Judge, and merchants, and lawyers, there are a regiment of infantry and a battery of artillery. There are some very handsome buildings in Victoria: Government House prominent among the houses up the side of the mountain, and a club, and a courthouse and jail, and the Murray barracks, and the merchant offices in numbers. The shops too are handsome outside and pretty inside. There are several jetties or wharves which are the scene of busy commerce, with boats plying to and from many ships and steamers exporting and importing goods.

At the time I was there, the China Fleet of Britain was generally in the harbour, and it was quite a sight to see the precision and regularity of their movements. It is the custom on Sundays for men-of-war to hoist their top-gallant yards and they are lowered at sundown. At 6 P.M. a musket was fired from the flagship, and as if they were worked by clockwork, the right ends of the top-gallant yards of all the warships turned upwards simultaneously and came down to the decks.

Sailing ships of war were not out of date then. There were still a few. I remember watching one starting. She lay at her place hauling up her anchor, all her masts and yards bare. Suddenly, as if by magic, as her anchor tripped, she became a mass of white

sails from top to bottom and end to end. There is no shouting and rushing about; all is done quietly and exactly.

Another time I was on board H.M S. *Sybille*, when a merchant vessel coming into harbour ran into another and got entangled. The First Lieutenant of the *Sybille* was standing by me looking at the collision through his glass, for it was about a mile off. When the ships became entangled he quietly closed his glass, went up to the Captain and touched his cap. The Captain ordered all his boats away to help the ships. A shrill whistle was sounded and taken up at once by others in other parts of the ship. I took out my watch to see how long it would take. The crew of a 50-gun frigate is about 600 men. Up they came out of the inside of the ship like ants out their hole. Each man knew his place and went to it, and in one minute and a half by my watch from the time the first whistle sounded, all the boats, some 15, were in the water and gone to the help of the ships. No noise, no confusion; not a word spoken. It was a living machine at work!

The discipline on board is very strict. One day asking for a glass of water on board H.M.S. *Calcutta*, it was brought to me by a little ship-boy. I noticed the poor little fellow had the word "Coward" sewn across the front of his blue jacket in big white letters. When he had gone, I asked what it meant. I was told that ten days ago a boat had been sent ashore to get firewood and had been fired at by some Chinese who were concealed, and this little chap, seized with terror had lain down in the bottom of the boat. He was punished by having to carry about this mark of disgrace for a fortnight.

Now, before going further, I must tell you the state of affairs we found on arrival. Hong-kong was declared to be in a state of siege, *i.e.*, we were not allowed to go unarmed or alone into the Chinese quarter, and no Chinaman was allowed to go out of his house at night unless with a lantern and a pass, under pain of being shot. It was not without reason. Just before we got there, an English soldier went alone into the Chinese quarter not far from the barracks in broad day. He was found decapitated; and no one to say who did it. And there had been a terrible attempt to destroy the whole European community. There was a baker in Hong-kong named Alum who supplied everybody. He determined to clear off the Europeans by poison. So he had arsenic mixed with the bread one day, and next morning it was sold and distributed as usual to every European. Happily two things defeated his purpose. First, he had in his zeal put in an overdose which set all who ate the bread retching and vomiting; secondly, he did not know that the soldiers, whom he chiefly wished to get rid of, always got bread one day old; they escaped. The effects of the poisoning, however, soon became apparent; nearly every one was taken ill. It was soon ascertained that it was arsenic poisoning and was traced to the bread. It was mail day and the mail steamer left for Singapore. By it the Governor wrote to the Governor at Singapore to say everybody was poisoned and he did not know how many would be alive that evening, and to ask him to send up troops at once. The Governor of Singapore sent on the news to Madras and that was the cause of my going to Hong-kong. So the precautions against the peaceful-looking Chinese were not needless. Sometimes officers were fired at going rounds at night. However, this did not make very much difference in our amusements.

(*To be continued.*)

The War 1st June - 4th August, 1917.

WEST.

Battle of Messines.

After the battle of Arras the Kaiser comforted his warriors with the assurance that the British had done their worst, and that their offensive had spent itself. The Kaiser seldom delivers a weighty pronouncement which is not speedily contradicted by some shrewd blow of the Allies. The several stages in the War, in other words the successive blows which have shaken the Hun armies in the West, have been preceded by some speech or action of the Kaiser which the immediate event has rendered ridiculous. The battles of the Marne, Nancy, Ypres, Verdun, the Somme, might each be prefaced by an ill-chosen proclamation of the Kaiser to his warriors, or illustrated by a caricature of a triumphal march with resplendent guards and beaming photographers. Both speeches and pictures would have produced a great impression beyond the Rhine, if they had not preluded disasters.

The Kaiser's army corps commanders took little comfort from his august assurances. From the Messines Ridge they could see the British army preparing with British thoroughness for a renewal of the battle. Miles and miles of fresh railroads were being made, millions of shells were being brought up, all visible to the naked eye of the commanders on the Ridge. Invisible to the eyes of the commanders, the British miners were finishing the tunnels and laying nineteen huge mines under the German positions. The German commanders issued an Army order bearing date 1st June, in which they warned their troops of the impending attack, and directed that the Ridge with its two villages of Wytschaete and Messines was to be held to the last man.

The Ridge was in fact of vital importance to an enemy who meant to annex Belgium. It is a long, low slope, rising to a height of 250 ft. at Wytschaete village, and is the only eminence before the plain of Flanders. It dominates Ypres from the south, and commands a clear view of the country to the east and west. During the two and a half years that the Germans held it, not a gun or man could stir in the British lines below without being observed and drawing the fire of the enemy's artillery on the eastern slopes. It was the last of the three German buttresses on the British sector, the other two, the Albert Plateau and the Vimy Ridge, having been captured in the Somme and Arras battles respectively.

At 3 a.m. on 7th June, the nineteen mines were fired, and 1,000,000 lbs. of high explosives reduced Messines and Wytschaete and the top of the ridge, with the defenders and all their implements of war, to dust and rubbish. The artillery opened fire simultaneously, and the British infantry—Irish and Colonial, with the sturdy county regiments of England—swept over the Ridge.

"The position captured by our troops was one of the enemy's most important strongholds. Dominating, as it did, the Ypres salient, and giving the enemy complete observation over it, he had neglected no precautions to render the position impregnable.

"These conditions enabled the enemy to overlook all our preparations, and he had moved up reinforcements to meet us. *The battle therefore became a gauge of the ability of the German troops to stop our advance under conditions as favourable to them as an army can ever hope for, with every advantage of ground and preparation, and with the knowledge that attack was impending.*

"The German forward defences consisted of an elaborate and intricate system of well-wired trenches and strong points,

forming a defensive belt over a mile in depth. The numerous farms and woods were thoroughly prepared for defence, and included large numbers of machine guns and their garrisons. Guns of all calibres, recently increased in numbers, were placed to bear not only on the front but on the flanks of attack...No precaution was omitted that could be provided by the incessant labour of [two and a half] years, guided by the experience gained by the enemy in previous defeats on the Somme, at Arras, and the Vimy Ridge...."

[Sir D. HAIG's *dispatch 8th June.*]

To General Sir H. Plumer who won the victory, Sir D. Haig sent a message of congratulation on 8th June :—

" *The complete success of the attack made yesterday...is an earnest of the eventual final victory of the Allied cause. [The victory] affords final and conclusive proof that neither the strength of a position, nor the knowledge of and timely preparation to meet an impending assault, can save the enemy from complete defeat*; and that brave and tenacious as the German troops are, *it is only a question of how much longer they can endure the repetition of such blows.*"

The battle gave us possession of the remains of the famous Ridge and of 9 miles of enemy positions as far as the River Lys. The prisoners taken numbered 7300; the guns 47; the machine guns 242; the trench mortars 60. Fragments of German guns were sprinkled over the battlefield, whole batteries having been blown to pieces by the explosion of the mines and by British shell fire. How many were buried under the ruins of the Ridge no one can tell. The German losses were between 30,000 and 40,000 men; ours, for a victory of such magnitude, were slight, barely one-fourth of the enemy's. The battle took the fight out of the reserve divisions, the usual counter-attacks on the captured positions being faint-hearted and easily repulsed. We held what we took.

The Aisne Battles.

Just as the Hills of the Somme and the Vimy Ridge barred the British advance to the open plains of Belgium, so the wooded and rocky heights north of the Aisne which culminate in the Craonne Plateau and the Moronvilliers *Massif*, barred the French advance to the plain of Laon.

In this hilly region the Crown Prince had massed very large forces in April for an attempt to reach Paris. He was forestalled by the great French offensive which opened on 16th of April, and in two days ruined all his prospects. In the space of five weeks all the commanding positions were wrested from him (Soissons to Moronvilliers).

In the opening days of the battle, 16th and 17th April, the heights immediately rising from the valley of the Aisne, including the Vrégny Plateau and a line of hills $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles long to the south of Moronvilliers (from Mont Cornillet to east of Vaudesincourt) were stormed, and 20,000 Huns made prisoners. The Huns however still maintained their hold on the greater part of the defensive positions along the ridge, 500-700 ft. high, known as the Chemin des Dames.

Craonne was taken on 3rd May and the Chemin des Dames on 5th May. On 21st May a decisive success on the Moronvilliers heights put the French in possession of all the important observation posts in the *Massif*. The French now controlled the two great roads from Rheims and Soissons to Laon.

The Craonne Plateau and the Moronvilliers *Massif* were as vital to the Germans in Champagne as Vimy and Messines to those in Artois and Flanders. The captured positions were in consequence subjected to a series of terrific onslaughts repeated almost daily throughout the months of June and July, picked troops and fresh divisions from the Eastern Front being employed. Against the Craonne Plateau some 50 attacks were directed, culminating in a great battle on 24th July, when 100,000 Germans endeavoured in vain to push the French over the ridge. The fighting

on the Moronvilliers heights was equally persistent.

The official French communiqués throughout the period vary little except in the name of the particular point chosen by the Crown Prince for the attack to bear upon: Cerny, the California Plateau, Hurtebise, the Chemin des Dames, Vauxaillon ; Mont Cornillet, Mont Haut, etc. For instance the following communiqués:—

June 6th. "The night was lively over a great part of the Chemin des Dames... The artillery duel assumed a character of great intensity during the latter part of the night, especially east of Vauxaillon...

Near Hurtebise the Germans launched two assaulting waves... The assailants were thrown back into their trenches after a violent fight, in which our troops inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. Our line was maintained in its entirety.

June 8th. The enemy delivered attacks at numerous points in the Cerny sector which failed under our fire."

The communiqués all run in the same terms : a fierce German attack, the reply by the French artillery, sometimes a furious bayonet struggle, a trench yielded to the enemy only to be recovered a few hours later, and a German retreat. It is a tale, daily repeated, of desperate attempts and disasters for the Crown Prince's armies.

The French, at the end of July, after two months of ceaseless fighting, had maintained and even slightly extended their gains, and were firmly established on the Craonne Plateau and the Moronvilliers *Massif*. The roads from Laon to Rheims and Soissons and thence to Paris were securely barred to the invader, and the French were in a good position for a great offensive against the fortress of Laon. The only result to the Huns was a long list of casualties utterly barren of any military gain. The French, it is true, suffered severely, but thanks to the Mass Butcher who never hesitated to send his men to the slaughter, they gave more than they received.

Battle of Flanders.

31st July. "Neither the strength of a position, nor the knowledge of and timely preparation to meet an impending assault can save the enemy from complete defeat." The battle of Flanders has given striking confirmation to these words of Sir D. Haig. Knowledge of the impending attack was not wanting to the German commanders. They had brought up large reserves and posted them at strategic points to meet the attack, which, even the German papers tell us, they had been expecting for a fortnight before it came. They had 13 divisions—some 200,000 men—in the line. They had the usual definite information to guide them, viz., the rain of shells that crumbled their defences days and days before the dawn of 31st July. They had had two and a half years to strengthen their positions at leisure. Yet 15 miles of their impregnable positions were carried in the space of a few hours, including ten fortified villages [two fell to the French on the British left], and 6000 prisoners were made.

Greater results would have immediately followed had the weather kept fine. But torrential rain fell during the 48 hours following the battle, and transformed the low-lying plains of Flanders into a bog where further progress was exceedingly difficult.

The battle drives home the lesson that the Germans cannot make any position so strong that we cannot take it.

This year's battles in the West—the Somme, the Aisne, Arras, Messines, Flanders,—give proof conclusive that the Hun is a beaten man ; he probably realizes as much himself. He has not initiated a single attack of any importance, but has been compelled to submit to the Allies' tactics, and receive the Allies' blows. In counter-attacks he has barely recovered a point here and a point there before the Allies had had time to fortify a newly captured position, and even that he has failed to hold when a fresh Allied attack has been launched. Step by step, irrevocably,

he has been driven from the strongest positions carefully chosen when he was master of all his movements three years ago, and fortified with the utmost care and skill during that long period. In battle after battle—and there are hundreds of battles not deemed worthy, in this great War, of even a passing mention in the official communiqués—he has been defeated with loss. Whatever victories he may win in the East,—and those victories are the reward not of his superior valour but of his incomparable skill in the dark dealings of intrigue and treason—he is beaten in the West.

EAST.—

On 1st July the Russian army of the Revolution struck a great blow at the Austro-German positions before Brzezany. It was in this region of high-wooded hills and deep clefts through which run the tributaries of the Dniester, that a year ago Brusiloff's victorious advance was finally checked, not by Austro-German valour, as was then thought, but by treason in Petrograd—military supplies were withheld by the pro-German traitors that controlled the various war departments.

In twelve days the new armies captured the towns of Koniuchy, Halicz and Zborow, and forced the Zlota Lipa; 36,000 prisoners and 93 guns were taken; Brzezany was within the grasp that was about to close on it. Lemberg experienced the fear which came over it in 1916.

But treason once more, this time within the ranks of the victorious armies, saved Western Galicia. "The offensive encountered insurmountable difficulties both at the front and in the interior. Enemy agents made use of a criminal propaganda, irresponsible elements provoked a revolt at Petrograd, and part of the troops at the front, seduced by the same propaganda, forgot their duty to their country, and facilitated the enemy piercing our front." (Circular to the Allies by the Russian foreign minister, 2nd August.)

Some Russian troops, refused to fight; regiments of their own accord marched away to the rear; others discussed orders to advance; German spies excited a panic, and the retreat began. The victorious army was left with its flanks unprotected, and in turn began to retreat abandoning guns and baggage in its haste. All the recent conquests and others of a year ago which had made the name of Brusiloff glorious—Tarnopol, Stanislau Kolomea, Buczacz and Delatyn—were hurriedly evacuated, the panic-stricken armies fleeing for dear life from Galicia to Bukovina with an enemy hard on their tracks whom they had beaten a fortnight before.

The retreat did not halt there. Something like order was at last enforced on the Russian frontier, and a stubborn fight was made to dispute the passage of the Zbrucz to the enemy. But the passage was forced, and the enemy set foot on Russian soil east of Galicia.

Treason and spies had done their work well. A brilliant offensive had been turned into a disastrous retreat; a breach had been made at the southern end of the Russian line; and the Rumanians who were winning a series of victories in the southern Carpathians and on the borders of Transylvania, may, ere long, find themselves compelled to fall back to the north and east in order to maintain their communications with the Russians, and through the Russians with the Western Allies.

The Russian revolutions and counter-revolutions have cost the Allies one more year of war. It is easy to imagine what the state of the Central Empires would have been in October 1917, if the two great Powers, the Anglo-French in the West and the Russian in the East, had delivered *simultaneously* from April onward a series of blows like those of the Aisne, Arras, Messines and Flanders —and the Zlota Lipa. Germany's doom was very near.

CONCLUSION.—

It argues no great genius to rout an army in whose ranks treason has produced defection, disorder, and panic. Even the Crown Prince could have covered himself with glory in Galicia,

once the Russian retreat had begun, if he had not been thoughtlessly left behind hammering—the only tactics he seems to understand—against the French lines in Champagne.

It will require more than the military genius of Germany to defeat the magnificent armies arrayed in the West. The West, not the East, is the decisive field. During the past twelvemonth while the Russian armies have been quiescent, paralysed partly by treason and partly by revolution, the Germans have been beaten in scores of battles in the West, have lost 170,000 prisoners and close on 1000 guns, and been driven from 100 miles of fortified front which they boasted impregnable. The Somme battles cost them 750,000 men; Arras, the Aisne, and Messines not less than 300,000. Army after army has been thrown into the fight and beaten. A victory in the East may stimulate the despondent Hun to a fresh effort; it will not silence the guns in the West.

The great problem is how to conquer in the West. The problem becomes daily harder of solution. The forces arrayed against the Kaiser, instead of dwindling like his own, are daily on the increase: Britain has by no means put forth her full power; America's power will begin to be felt with the coming of Spring; France, though drained, can hold her own against an enemy equally drained.

On the anniversary of the day on which he deliberately brought this War on Europe, the Kaiser issued a proclamation to his army and navy (1st Aug. 1917). "We and our Allies will also be victorious in 1918," says the imperial prophet. Certainly, if the Somme and the Aisne, Arras and Messines satisfy the Kaiser's definition of victory. He may not have to wait till 1918 for such German victories. Flanders and Champagne may still have a few in store for him before the Autumn leaves fall.

4th August.

Notes :—

1. Latest events :—

15th Aug. Battle at Hill 70 near Lens. The Germans are driven from their positions with loss of 1,100 prisoners, Lens is being made untenable to them.

16th Aug. The battle in Flanders begins again: Langemarck taken; 2,000 prisoners and 24 guns captured.

20th - 24th. French attack at Verdun: 8000 prisoners taken.

20th - 24th. Italians attack on the Isonzo: 20,000 prisoners taken.

25th August.

2. In 1916 the Germans were in possession of :—

77 per cent of the French metal industry;

68 per cent of the total coal production of France;

78 per cent of the production of coke;

70 per cent of the steel production.

The occupied area contained the cotton industry of France, *i.e.*, the French Lancashire, of which Lille is the Manchester. Behind the German lines there was a French population greater than that of Belgium. (Daily Mail Year Book, 1916).

The industries and resources of Belgium and the occupied area of France have been exploited in the fullest measure by German specialists, and applied to Germany's needs. A nation whose women allow its War Lord to exploit the corpses of their husbands and sons will not be expected to show any mercy in exploiting the resources and inhabitants of a hostile nation. All machinery, all raw materials, the population itself, have been removed to Germany. It is partly by means of this thieving and slave-raiding on a colossal scale that Germany is still able to hold out.

THE WAR. *(Appendix.)*

	West.	East. *(Russia-Rumania.)*	Naval.	South. *(Italy-Balkans.)*	Turkey.
June.	At the end of May and the beginning of June, 32 German divisions (some 500,000 men) were brought from the eastern front to the western to oppose the Allies' advance in Flanders and Champagne. [Statement by General Shtcherbatcheff, the Russian Commander on the Rumanian front.] 7th. The British give battle at Messines; the Ridge blown up, and the German positions from Wytschaete to Warneton on the Lys, 9 miles of them, captured; 7,300 prisoners, 242 machine guns, 60 trench mortars, and 47 guns taken. Throughout the month, the German armies deliver assaults on the French positions (Craonne Plateau and the Moronvilliers Heights) north of the Aisne, which the French captured in the battle of the Aisne and subsequent battles, in April and May. The Germans make no headway.	*(Russia.)* Fighting in the regions of Smorgon, Luck, and Tarnopol.	Zeebrugge bombarded: a German torpedo-boat smashed up. Austrian torpedo-boat sunk by Allied submarine. 5th. British patrolling squadron encounters a German destroyer flotilla at 1-30 A.M. off the Belgian coast; sinks one destroyer and damages two others. Austrian destroyer sunk by Italian submarine. British armed liner sunk by German submarine. Enemy submarine sunk by Japanese destroyer in the Mediterranean. French armoured cruiser (*Kleber* 7,700 tons) mined and sunk off Brest.	*(Italy.)* 11th. Italians capture nearly the whole of Mt. Ortigara (on the Asiago Plateau) 6,924 ft. 17th. Italians capture Austrian positions on Corno Cavento (11,000 ft. high). 20th. An Austrian attack at Ortigara defeated. *(Balkans.)* 11th. King Constantine of Greece is forced by the Allies to abdicate, after being allowed for two years every facility for plotting with the Huns against the Allies.	Turks defeated by the Russians at Kalkit (95 miles west of Erzerum.)

	West.	East. (*Russia-Rumania.*)	Naval.	South. (*Balkans-Italy.*)	Turkey.
	29th. German attack at Mort Homme (Verdun). Slight gain. 29th. British capture Avion (near Lens). 30th. Total British captures in June:—8,686 prisoners, 345 machine guns, 102 trench mortars, and 67 guns.		German submarine sunk by American warship. French patrols had 42 encounters with enemy submarines in June.	Anglo-French action in Greece was hampered by Italy and Russia. 30th. The New Greek Government breaks off relations with Germany.	
July.	German attacks against the Moronvilliers heights and the Craonne Plateau continue with undiminished vigour. 4th May to 24th July, 50 attacks were made on the Craonne plateau; as costly as futile. 14h. A great battle gives the French complete possession and control of all the Moronvilliers heights and dominating positions. The French become masters of the Soissons - Laon, and the Rheims - Laon roads. 19th - 24th. Not less than 100,000 Germans took part in the battle on the Craonne Plateau.	(*Russia.*) 1st. The Russians begin the offensive in Galicia in the Tarnopol - Brzezany region. 1st-12th. Halicz taken, and 36,000 prisoners, 403 machine guns, 98 mine-throwers, 93 guns, and 28 trench mortars. Fighting begins on the Riga, Smorgon, Stokhod and Zlota Lipa sectors. In the third week of July, the advance in	French destroyer sunk in the Mediterranean. British destroyer mined and sunk. Russian torpedo boat mined in the Black Sea. French submarine lost. British destroyer sunk by German submarine. 9th. British dreadnought (*Vanguard* 19,000 tons) blows up in harbour. British armed liner sunk by German submarine. British submarine lost.		Russian communiqué of 9th July, announces that under Turkish pressure, Russians evacuate Pendjvin, Khanikin and Kasr-i-Shirin. Communication between Russians and British in Mesopotamia interrupted.

Net result of the two months of fighting north of the Aisne: a long list of German casualties and never a foot of ground. 10th. The British lose ground in the sand dunes between Nieuport and the Sea; 1,400 yards of the line forced back to a depth of 600. The loss results in a wide No Man's Land, mutual artillery fire rendering the evacuated strip untenable by infantry. British lose 1,500 men. 18th. French attack at Mort Homme; regains what was lost on 29th June. 31st. A fresh British victory. With French co-operation on the left, the British storm 15 miles of German positions from Steenstraate on the Yser to La Basseville on the Lys. Steenstraate and Bixschoote captured by the French; Pilken, St. Julien, Verlorenhoek, Frezenberg, Westhoek, Hollebeke, Hooge, and La Basseville captured by the British. The German line penetrated in some places to a depth of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. 6000 prisoners taken.	Galicia comes to a standstill, then turns into a flight, towards Bukovina and the Russian frontier: Russian regiments, infected with German socialism, refuse to fight, and retire from the battlefield, leaving the flanks of the victorious army unprotected. Halicz, Tarnopol, Stanislau, Trembowla, Nadworna, Buczacz, Delatyn, Kolomea, evacuated and abandoned without a fight to the Austro-Germans. In Poland the Russian armies stand their ground. But the enemy widen the breach in Galicia. By the end of July, the Russians are forced back over the Zbrucz river near Husiatyn and the enemy enter Russian territory from Galicia.	German submarine aground near Calais, captured by French. German submarine sunk by Japanese destroyer in the Mediterranean. British armoured cruiser *Ariadne* (11,000 tons) sunk by German submarine. German submarine damaged, interned at Corunna (Spain); lost to Germany for the period of the War.		British operations in Mesopotamia suspended owing to the heat. (119° F. in the shade on 9th July.) In Palestine the siege of Gaza continues. Turkish communication lines frequently raided.

	West.	East. (*Russia-Rumania.*)	Naval	South (*Balkans-Italy*)	Turkey
		(*Rumania.*) 24th - 26th. The Rumanians, with Russians co-operating, take 3,000 prisoners, 66 guns, and one battery of howitzers, and drive the Austro-Germans from their positions in the south Carpathians. The advance progresses towards Kezdi Vasarheli.			
August.	1st. Storms transform the battlefield into a bog Allied advance in consequence delayed. A series of violent counter-attacks upon St. Julien before the captured positions could be organized for defence, forces the British from the village. 2nd. St. Julien passes again into our hands.	Kimpolung evacuated by the Russians. Czernowitz evacuated by the Russians. Russo-Rumanian forces begin to fall back.			

The War, August 1914 - August 1917.

Year.	West.	Naval.	East.	Colonial.	Turkey.	Balkans.	Italy.	Rumania.
1914	German dash for Paris. Allies unprepared. 4th Aug. Liege holds up the Germans for 9 days; French muster at Charleroi and near Namur; British at Mons. Fall of Namur forces the Allies to retreat to the Marne. 7th Sept. The Marne: Von Kluck blunders, Allies strike, and drive the German hordes back across the Aisne to the heights north. 9th Oct. Antwerp falls. Race for the Channel follows: Allies win, and draw their lines from the Sea to Switzerland. 21st Oct. - 17th Nov. Battle of Ypres. Germans try to pierce Allies' lines, in order to reach Calais and to begin a second march on Paris; beaten. ——— Defeat staved off; time gained to prepare men and materials.	28th Aug. Battle in Heligoland Bight: Huns realise how wise they were to leave to England unchallenged the command of the sea. 8th Dec. Germany's East Asiatic squadron annihilated near the Falkland Islands. The self-nominated Admiral of the Atlantic content with the modest functions of the Admiral of the Kiel Canal.	East Prussia invaded; Russians defeated at Tannenburg. Austrians beaten, Lemburg taken.	German Pacific colonies, Togoland, and Kiaochau captured by the Allies.	In October, Turkey joins the Central Empires. Danger to the Suez canal and to the Persian Gulf.	The Serbians defeat the Austrian 'Punitive Force' inflicting 60,000 casualties, and drive the remnants of the Force out of the country. (Shabatz October).		
1915	11th March. Germans beaten at Neuve Chapelle. 20th April. Germans beaten at second battle of Ypres. 28th May. Germans beaten at Souchez. 25th Sept. Germans beaten at Loos. 6th Oct. Germans beaten at Perthes. ——— Wearing down German superiority, war of attrition. Four Allied attempts to breach the enemy's line. Second German attempt to get to Calais.	The German fleet stays obstinately at home, and the Kaiser brags that we are beaten because we cannot force his fleet to come out. We force it to stay at home: it dare not come out. 24th Feb. German battle-cruisers out to shell English sea-side resorts are met *en route*; the *Blucher* sunk, the *Seydlitz* and *Derfflinger* badly hammered.	22nd March. Przemysl taken by Russians, and 700 guns. June. Mackennsen forces the Russians to retreat from Galicia. 5th Aug. Warsaw falls; Russians driven from Poland to behind the Dwina.	German S W. Africa taken.	19th Feb. Naval bombardment of the Gallipoli forts. 25th & 26th April and 6th Aug. Allied troops landed in Gallipoli. Feb. Turkish army beaten at the Suez Canal. British march on Baghdad: Ctesiphon reached in November; but vastly superior enemy forces oblige us to retreat back to Kut. Kut besieged. Gallipoli evacuated after it had cost us 100,000 casualties, and the Turks at least an equal number.	Oct. Bulgaria joins the Central empires. Serbia crushed in October and November. The remnants of her army retreat through Albania, and are shipped to Corfu. Allies at Salonika.	3rd May. Italy joins the Allies.	

Year.	West.	Naval.	East.	Colonial.	Turkey.	Balkans.	Italy.	Rumania.
1916	Allies' superiority begins to appear; Germany anxious to keep the initiative, tries to hack a way through Verdun to Paris. (Feb. - July.) 1st July. Battle of the Somme begins: pounding into the superman a sense of his inferiority. Half of the German armies are hammered and defeated turn and turn about.	31st May. Battle of Jutland: Kaiser's fleet turns tail after this its first and only attempt to pass beyond Heligoland Bight.	1st June. Great Russian offensive in Galicia. Czernowitz taken. The offensive cost the Central Empires 300,000 prisoners and some 750,000 total casualties. The offensive was facilitated by Verdun and Jutland.	German Cameroons taken.	Erzerum stormed by Russians on 16 Feb. Trebizond taken by Russians on 17th April. Siege of Kut; surrender on 27th April.	Monastir taken by the French and Serbs. (Nov.)	May. Austrian offensive from the Trentino drives Italians from Asiago Plateau. The Plateau re-taken by the Italians. 9th Aug. Gorizia stormed by the Italians.	27th Aug. Rumania joins the Allies. Irruption into Transylvania, then retreat. Rumanians driven behind the Sereth.
1917	Allies superiority in guns, men, and morale, definitely asserted. The Somme Battle concluded with Hindenburg on the run for his positions nearer the Rhine. 9th April. Battle of Arras and Vimy Ridge. 16th April. Battle of the Aisne. 7th June. Battle of Messines. 31st July. Battle of Flanders ushers in the fourth year of war, and beats the lesson of his inferiority into the Hun at the outset. 20th August. Battle of Verdun.		Revolution in Russia; Czar forced to abdicate. Great internal disorders in Russia prevent co-operation with the Western Allies. 1st July. Russian offensive in Galicia begins well, with 36,000 prisoners in twelve days. Then treason and anarchy bring about a retreat from Galicia and Bukovina. The Germans invade Russia from Galicia.	German East Africa as good as conquered. The remnants of the German forces are being hemmed in. Germany's colonial empire has passed away. German colonies in Oceania 96,000 sq. mi. Africa 931,400 „ „ Kiaochau 200 „ „ ——— 1,027,600 „ „	The Kut disaster avenged; 25th Feb. Kut captured by the British. 11th March. Baghdad occupied. 22nd April. Samarra 90 miles beyond Baghdad occupied. Ends the Kaiser's dream of a Hun Empire from the Baltic to the Arabian Sea.	King Constantine of Greece abdicates. Greece breaks off relations with the Central Empires. (June).	16th May. Italian offensive on the Carso Plateau. 20th August Italian offensive on the Carso Plateau.	

Notes:—1. The War will be decided in the West: the opposing forces are mostly concentrated there, British and French, and German. The U. S. A. weight will be thrown on the West. After the first rush in August 1914, the Germans have made no headway in the West, even when vastly superior to the Allies in men and material.

The Allies' superiority in the West has been apparent since 1916.

The only successes Germany has won have been in the Balkans and on the Eastern Front. In the Balkans the success was due to her overwhelming artillery and immense numbers, and to the fact that the Serbs had to meet the attack from three quarters simultaneously: from the Bulgars on the east, the Austrians on the west, and the Germans on the north.

Moreover King Constantine betrayed his Allies in the hour of their need, and left them to fight their battles single-handed. The Western Allies came to the rescue, but too late and too few.

On the Eastern Front, the success was due partly to the Russians' unpreparedness and lack of artillery, partly to their lack of railways and transport facilities generally, and partly, it would seem, to treason in Petrograd. To this last cause must be assigned the failure of Brusiloff's great offensive in 1916 and the Rumanian retreat in 1916.

Anarchy and treason in the Russian ranks determined the Russian retreat in 1917.

From 1915 onward the Germans have not scored a single success in the West.

2. U. S. A. declared war on Germany in April 1917. They are preparing for the 1918 campaign.

3. Three stages in the War in the West:—

(a) Allies staving off defeat, and gaining time to organize their resources, 1914.

(b) Allies levelling down German superiority while preparing their own. (End of 1914 - 1915).

(c) Allies assume the upper hand, 1916 and 1917. Pounding the appreciation of this superiority into the German armies.

Some Lizards of the Madras Presidency.

[*By* Mr. Y. RAMACHANDRA RAO, M.A., *Assistant to the Government Entomologist.*]

II. Agamidae or the Blood-sucker family.

*2. *The Smaller Bloodsucker: Sitana ponticeriana.* The scientific name of this lizard may look like a specimen of the usual high-sounding combination of letters set up by the scientist purposely to frighten the layman. It is, however, only a latinised form of "*the Pondicherry Devil.*" To call a handsome innocent Lizard a "Devil" and a "Devil of Pondicherry" into the bargain, would, if the feelings of the lizard were consulted, appear to be a positive and unprovoked insult. This curious nickname is explained by Jerdon: "The name Sitana, said by Cuvier, (the great French Naturalist) to be the name by which it is known at Pondicherry, is a Latin form of the word 'Shaitan' or Devil, a name sometimes applied to it by the Mussulmans of S. India."

The "*Satan of Pondicherry*" is a lizard of slender build and moderate size and is in appearance very much like the young *calotes*, with which it is often confused. It can easily be distinguished from the young blood-sucker by the presence on its back of a chain of diamond-shaped rhomboidal brown patches placed one behind the other end to end. In young *calotes*, the patches are rectangular and clearly separated from one another by lighter bands. Again, while *calotes* has five toes on the hind feet, this lizard has only four toes.

The male (Pl. VI, Fig. 2) is generally bigger and of more robust build than the female. It possesses a vertical appendage on the throat, resembling the dewlap of cattle, and capable of being folded up and spread out at will. This appendage assumes, during the breeding season, brilliant metallic colours, partly blue, partly blue-black, and partly crimson. There is no sign of any dorsal crest in this species.

The lizard is olive-brown; a chain of rhomboidal patches, already referred to, stretches along the middle of the back. A bright yellow stripe extends along the sides of the body from the head to the end of the trunk. The ventral surface of the body is marked with several parallel darkish lines.

The general coloration in this species is chiefly olive-brown, black and grey, and the colour-changes are, as in the geckos, confined mostly to a deepening or paling of the general coloration. As it is a ground lizard, it adjusts its general colour to that of the soil it frequents. The specimens found in the black-soil tracts of the Bellary Dt. are generally very dark-coloured; those found in the gravelly parts of the same district are greyish-brown; and those found in the red-soil tracts are distinctly reddish brown. In the specimen found on the sand at Thandayarpet in Madras, the general colour was so like sand, that, had it not been for its quick movements, I should not have been aware of its presence.

This lizard is "purely a ground lizard" and is found only in the open country where there are plenty of bushes; it does not enter places inhabited by man. It is found some distance along the slopes of the low hills of Southern India.

Prickly pear hedges are the favourite places of refuge of these lizards; they retreat into them at the appearance of

Continued from September, 1916, pp. 124-129.

the slightest danger. In the black-soil country, they seek shelter under isolated bushes, and in summer, when wide cracks appear in the soil, they disappear in the crevices when pursued by enemies.

Habits:—This handsome lizard is diurnal in its habits, and hides under some stone or bush at night. All through the day, it is active, now darting forward to secure a beetle passing by, now rushing headlong towards a neighbouring bush to escape from an enemy, and now resting motionless on the ground on the look-out for prey. Unlike its near relation, *calotes*, it never ascends trees. The writer has rarely seen it go up even the low bushes, under which it so habitually seeks shelter. In correlation with its defencelessness, it is very timid and wary, and extremely quick in its movements. When pursued, it rushes with leaps and bounds to the nearest bush, where it remains so motionless, like a dead twig, that it defies all efforts at detection. In the absence of bushes, it conceals itself under big boulders or stones, or under fallen tree-trunks, or it disappears into burrows or cracks in the soil.

It feeds principally on ants and white-ants, but is not disinclined to other insects, such as caterpillars, moths, and beetles. In parts of Bellary and Kurnool, where the crops were infested by a wingless grasshopper (*colemania sphenarioides*), this lizard was found doing good to the ryot by feeding on the young hoppers. As in the geckos, the skin is moulted off in flakes and devoured by the lizard.

The hind-limbs in this lizard are peculiar in having only four toes instead of the usual five, the fourth toe on which the main axis of the foot falls being very much elongated. The hind-legs are much longer and better developed than the fore-limbs, and seem to be mainly responsible for the swift movements of this lizard; the fore-limbs are used almost solely for supporting the front part of the body. It may therefore be said to resemble birds and man to some extent in employing mainly its hind-limbs in moving about from place to place. A Ceylonese lizard, *Otocryptis bivittata*, a close ally of *Sitana*, has been known to have a strictly bipedal mode of progression.

It is a very defenceless and weak lizard and falls a prey to various snakes, to the varanus lizards (*Tamil—Udumbu*), and to birds of prey. Jerdon remarks, "Notwithstanding its activity, it is the common prey of harriers, hawks, and eagles." Once I noticed a crow pouncing down and carrying off one of these lizards from a black-soil field. As already stated, I recently observed this lizard being attacked by a blood-sucker. Possibly it is also attacked by the large Indian Scinc, *Mabina Carinatee* (*Tamil—Aranai*), for I noticed two young *Sitana* lizards fleeing from a hedge which the Scinc was just entering.

The males can easily be made out by the presence of the large dewlap, capable of being folded and unfolded at the will of the lizard. In young males the dewlap is dull-white, but as they grow older it gradually develops brilliant metallic colours. In large specimens the dewlap develops four different colours, a bright yellow stripe bordering the chin, then a brilliant blue patch followed by another of bright bluish black, and last of all, a patch of splendid scarlet which extends along to a portion of the lower surface of the body. All these colours show a wonderful degree of richness and depth. In the arid black-soil plains of the Bellary District, I have sometimes observed, what looked from a distance like a rare and wonderful butterfly on a bush, but I found on approaching that it was a large male clinging to one of the branches, with the resplendent colours of its dewlap fully spread out as if for exhibition. The male in his breeding colours, ever and anon folding and unfolding his gorgeously coloured dewlap, is truly a sight for the gods, and reminds one of the fashionable dandy of modern days, who, in order to show himself off to the greatest advantage, now and again flicks out his many-

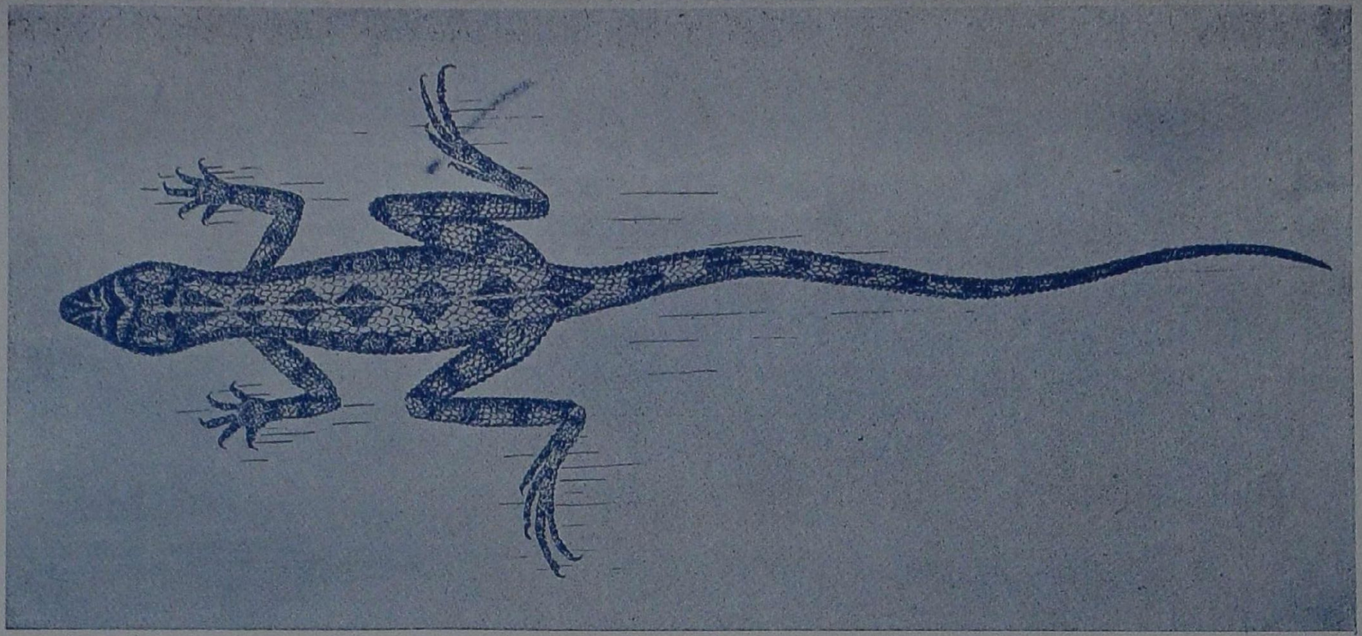
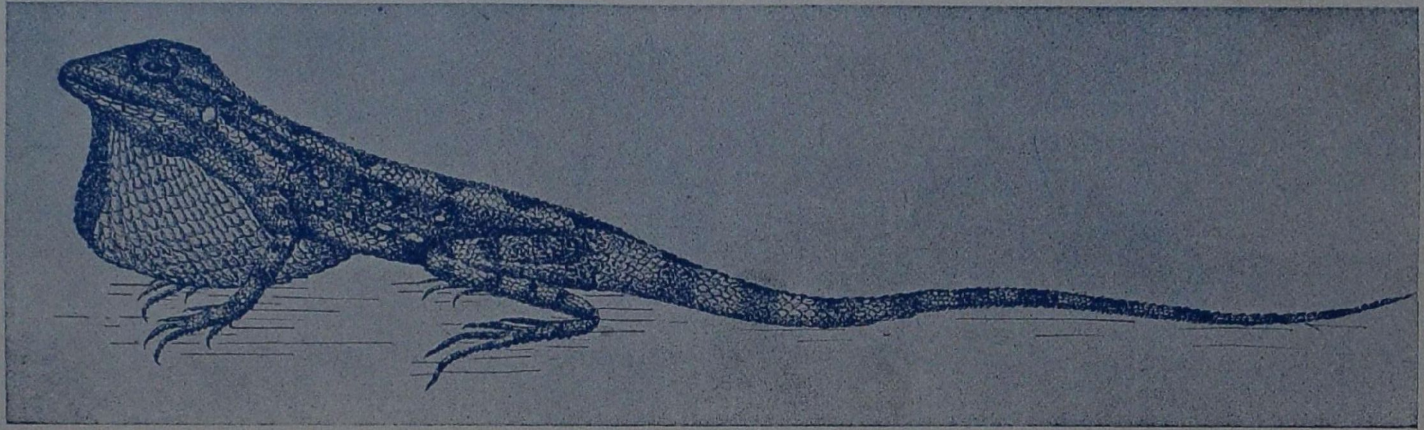


Fig. 1. Female.



Sitana Ponticeriana. **The Ponticherry Devil.** Fig. 2. Male.

coloured hand-kerchief of the latest mode, or ostentatiously handles his gold watch of the newest make.

The breeding season seems to lie between May and December. The female lays her 10 or 12 soft oval eggs in moist soil, very much as *Calotes* do.

This lizard has no special name in Tamil, but, as it resembles the young ones of the blood-sucker in general appearance, it is known as "Kutti Onan" (the young blood-sucker). *Calotes* and *Sitana* are the two most widely distributed representatives of the Agamids of Southern India. The rest of the species have either a peculiar or a restricted distribution. Some are found only on rocks, and others on trees; some are dwellers in dense forests, while others are confined to the higher elevations on the Hills.

3. *Charasia dorsalis* is a large species of lizard, which lives on rocks among the low hills of Southern India. At the base of the hills, it may leave the rocks and take to living partly on the ground and partly on the trees. The males are large, and are markedly different from the females. They are red or orange-yellow with a broad black stripe extending along each side of the body, while the female is dark-brown marbled with lighter. The young ones have all the latter type of coloration. While in the common blood-sucker the body is compressed, *i.e.*, flattened from side to side, in *Charasia* it is depressed or flattened from above downwards. Neither the male nor the female possesses any crest in the shape of a row of erect scales as *Calotes*.

This lizard nods its head somewhat like that of blood-sucker and resembles it in many of its other habits; as already noted, the writer found it making merry on a swarm of locusts that alighted in the Bellary Dt. in May 1904.

4. *Draco dussumieri*: is the "Flying Lizard" of Southern India and is interesting as marking the attempts of the lizards towards a conquest of the air. As the name "Draco" or the "Dragon" signifies, it may be taken to be the modern representative of the Flying Dragon of olden days.

Though called the "flying lizard" it does not fly in the sense a bird or a bat does, for it has no wings. It possesses a large flap of skin along each side of the body, behind the forelimbs. The flaps are usually folded up against the sides, and when unfolded, they act like a parachute and enable the lizard to travel through the air from one tree to another. It is found only in the damp and woody areas on the west coast and in the forest tracts of the Western Ghats.

Time ripens all things. No man is born wise.—*Cervantes.*

To many this life is the porch of Heaven, full of its overheard harmonies, shining already in its sure dawn.—*John Ayscough.*

It is by presence of mind in untried emergencies that the native metal of a man is tested. —*Lowell.*

God has two ways of crushing us, by refusing our wishes and by fulfilling them. But he who wills only what God wills escapes both catastrophes.

No soul was ever lost because its fresh beginnings broke down, but thousands of souls have been lost because they would not make fresh beginnings.

Kindness is the overflowing of self upon others. We put others in the place of self. We treat them as we would wish to be treated ourselves.—*Father Faber.*

A great part of the happiness of life consists not in fighting battles, but in avoiding them. A masterly retreat is in itself a victory.—*Longfellow.*

To live for others, to suffer for others, is the inevitable condition of our being. To accept the condition gladly is to find it crowned with its joys.

An imperturbable demeanour comes from perfect patience. Quiet minds cannot be perplexed or frightened, but go on in fortune or misfortune at their own private pace, like a clock during a thunderstorm.—*Robert Louis Stevenson.*

There is no finer chemistry than that by which the element of suffering is so compounded with spiritual forces that it issues to the world as gentleness and strength.

The Romantic Revival. *

K. MADHAVAN, *IV Class.*

The publication of the Lyrical Ballads by Wordsworth and Coleridge was the first open declaration of revolt against the school of Pope. Up to this time, except in the case of Blake, the revolt was carried on in silence.

But the 'Ancient Mariner' by Coleridge (1772 - 1834), and 'Tintern Abbey,' 'The Female Vagrant,' 'The Yew Tree' and some other poems by Wordsworth (1770 - 1850) struck the note of pure Romanticism. The scenery, the colouring, the supernaturalism, the rapidity of the action, and "the fiery touch with which successive images are burnt into the brain of the wedding guest," are all the very essence of Romanticism. Wordsworth's contributions too are remarkable for the sense of mystery in nature, the close bond which binds man to her, and tears for the sufferings of humanity. With these poets Romanticism assumed a triumphant and defiant tone.

Any one who reads the 'Ancient Mariner' and one of Wordsworth's contributions to the Lyrical Ballads, for instance 'Tintern Abbey,' will be struck at once with the great difference between the two poems. From first to last 'The Ancient Mariner' breathes a purely Romantic atmosphere. 'Tintern Abbey' has only some features of Romanticism in the wider sense. Wordsworth says of himself :

" The moving accident is not my trade ;
To freeze the blood I have no ready arts :
'Tis my delight alone in summer shade,
To pipe a simple song for thinking hearts."

Heartleap Well.

But at times he suggests supernatural effects. It is true he does not bring the past to live in the present and does not turn to remote countries and times to find his themes. Still he has some power for the portrayal of the innermost feelings of the past and the natural sights and sounds of distant lands ; this appears in 'The Feast of Brougham Castle' and in 'The Forsaken Indian Woman.' He was fed from childhood upwards on visions of pure romance; 'The Arabian Nights' and 'The Fairie Queen' were his favourite readings, and his youth was spent in an atmosphere of adventure. But, more than all, the constant sense of awe at external nature gave the distinctive tendency to his character. This was enough to make him an out-and-out Romanticist ; but his sane instincts controlled him ; he was persistent in bringing his airy visions into contact with actual facts.

Thus much, then, of Wordsworth's connection with Romanticism in the strict sense of the word. If we consider the movement in its wider aspects, we shall find Wordsworth a most uncompromising Romanticist. In form as well as in matter he completely broke away from the traditions of the school of Pope.

First, with regard to form. In his early years he followed the classic models. In his 'Descriptive Sketches' and 'Evening Walk' we see unmistakable traces of the influence of Pope. But later he utterly desregarded the 'poetic diction' of the classic school. What was more, he held that there is no fundamental difference between the style of poetry and that of prose ; the language of poetry should be the language spoken by ordinary people in their everyday life. The extravagance of this theory is easily realised when we read the 'Idiot Boy' or the 'Anecdote for Fathers' which were written in accordance with this theory. Evidently Wordsworth is at his best

* Continued from pp. 66-69, July 1917.

when in inspired moments he forgets his theory.

Wordsworth produced his best poems in the twenty years from 1798 to 1818. In these poems we notice a perfect balance between thought and expression. They have not the exaggerated simplicity of the poems of the previous years, nor the 'didactic 'dryness' of those produced after 1818. But, though often faulty, Wordsworth's poetic diction had a wholesome influence upon the poets of a later generation.

As with form, so with matter; his themes are not "the heroic passions and heroic personages"; nor are they the cities and club-rooms. He sang of nature in all her moods and of man in simple surroundings. Simplicity in subject-matter was his aim. How different from the classic school which manifested such utter lack of sympathy with nature and with the unostentatious life of simple men.

Nature to Wordsworth was everything; she was his teacher, his mistress, his constant companion—admonishing, delighting, inspiring. He was the "worshipper of nature, unwearied in her service." Other poets approached her with 'admiring observation,' but Wordsworth with 'a feeling of intimate worship.' Thomson, for instance, describes her with photographic accuracy; Burns looks at her "as an accessory to the expression of human love and woe"; and Cowper saw her as an evidence of the wisdom and goodness of God. But Wordsworth looked at nature, not to find a reflection of his mood in her; he looked up to her to catch into his own mind a reflection from her. He describes every varying aspect of nature with fidelity; but he goes farther into the very life of things, and sees a Presence in nature, a Power everywhere present and at all times capable of rousing into activity the imagination and feelings of men. He holds communion with this Presence, and firmly believes that it has a moral influence upon man's life to purify it and make it grand and beautiful.

The pleasures he found in nature in his earlier days are characterised by him as those of glad animal spirits. But in maturer age, he perceived how nature not only works delight in the blood, but "flashes illumination on the soul." He has shown us "by the subtle intensity of his own emotion how the contemplation of nature can be made a revealing agency like love or prayer." As a poet, his merit is that, when we read him, we do not see nature through a medium, through a middleman; the revealer is lost in the revelation. He always kept in view that his business was "to idealise the real, and not realise the ideal." Thus Wordsworth "substituted for a system of beliefs about nature," says Myers, "an admiration for nature so constant, an understanding of her so subtle, a sympathy so profound, that they became a veritable worship" which was neither paganism nor pantheism.

With regard to man, as with regard to nature, Wordsworth broke away from the classic school. The only subject of permanent literary interest was, according to him, joys and sorrows "in widest commonalty spread." Conventional and artificial life stunted the natural growth of the human faculties. He hated baseness, cruelty, and rancour, but he sympathized with the frailties of man. His treatment of humble life is particularly felicitous, because he intimately associated himself with the simple life of the Cumberland dalesmen. It should be remembered, however, that Wordsworth did not idealize the poorer classes, nor ascribe imaginary virtues to them. What he did believe was that the aim and perfection of of all life—happiness—was to be realised through simplicity of desire and communion with nature. He taught that man divorced from living intercourse with nature, could not but be restless and unhappy. Here, then, is the secret of the unsatisfied passions and miseries of mankind. According to him "Man was set in this world of nature," says Dawson, "because the world of nature was necessary to his well-being, nor were spiritual sanity

and delight possible without contact with nature."

This relation between man and nature is much insisted on by Wordsworth. If constant communion with nature is kept up, man will experience many a visiting of joy, which will have a wholesome influence upon his soul. In her presence all that is base in the heart of man sinks low, and his soul is 'tuned to love.' "In her life and beauty he has glimpses of the same spirit whose working he knows also in himself." And the evils of his life spring "from a perverse disregard to his true instincts, to which man is prone."

Though in the narrow sense Romanticism did not owe very much to Wordsworth, yet the wider aspects of the movement materially gained by his contributions, first with regard to diction and then with regard to theme. Freedom from conventionality was completely restored, and the deliverance of the poetic muse from crowded cities and fashionable drawing-rooms was effected. Romanticism, in short, henceforth became the dominating influence in literature.

The Monks of England.

[*By* P. N. R., *H. U. C.*]

I

A perusal of Abbot Gasquet's *English Monastic Life* has tempted me to lay before my fellow-students now studying Carlyle's *Abbot Samson*, a few salient features of the life led by the mediaevel monks.

Monasticism owes its origin to the tendencies in the human soul to asceticism and mysticism. Mysticism may broadly be described as the effort to satisfy already in this life the craving for a union of the soul with the Deity; and asceticism, as the effort to satisfy the longing for an ever-progressive purification of the soul and atonement for sin by self-renunciation and self-denial in things lawful. These tendencies may be called spiritual instincts, for, though not always active, they are always liable to be called into play. In all ages and races they are among the most deep-rooted and wide-spread spiritual instincts. Monasticism is the attempt to develop and regulate their exercise.

Monasticism was instituted to enable men to attain with greater facility 'the higher ideals' of the spiritual life Men at first sought in the desert the seclusion and solitude necessary to realize these higher ideals; this they could not do amid the turmoil and distractions of the world. Solitude is the root-meaning of the term 'monk,' which comes from a Greek word meaning 'alone, solitary.' As many Christians obeyed the same impulse, these solitaries of the desert joined together, and re-constituted the social life from which they seemed to flee. The social life thus reconstituted and based upon an absolute community of aim, thought, and action, was the life of the monastery.

Various monastic institutions sprung up in the Catholic Church*. But, how-

* The religious orders may generally be classed into four great categories: (1) The *Monks*, properly so called, comprehend the orders of St. Basil and St. Benedict with all their branches, Cluny, the Cistericians, the Chartreux, etc.—all anterior to the thirteenth century; (2) The Regular Canons who follow the rule of St. Augustine and who have neither gained great distinction nor rendered eminent services, but to whom are attached two illustrious orders, that of Premontré and that of La Merci for redemption of captives; (3) The Friars, or religious mendicants, comprehend the Dominicans, the Franciscans

ever much the ways of living might differ in details, the general tenor was practically identical in all monasteries. The chief duty in the monastery was the service of prayer and divine praise, but a considerable portion of the day was set apart for active duties connected with the temporal welfare of the monks or the good of their neighbours. While the cares of a great administration absorbed the energies of the elder members, teaching, study, and the cultivation of the arts and sciences occupied the attention of the community. Early rising, simple fare, habitual prayer, and constant work done with the hope of a reward in the world to come, were the lot of the monk.

Briefly, "a monk is a Christian who lives apart from the world, who withdraws from other men, not out of hatred or contempt of them, but for the love of God and of his fellow-man, and to serve them all the better as he shall have more and more purified and regulated his own soul. To make his perseverance sure he binds himself to a degree of chastity, of submission, and of poverty not required from all Christians, by an irrevocable promise or a vow. Having thus triumphed over his body by chastity, over his will by obedience, and over the world by voluntary poverty, he comes three times a victor to swell the permanent army of prayer and charity."

Gasquet remarks that "in order to understand this regular life the inquirer must know something of the offices and position of the various superiors and officials, and must understand the parts and the disposition of the various parts of the material buildings in which that life was led. Moreover, he must realise the divisions of the day and the meaning of the regulations which were intended to control the day's work in general, and in a special manner the ecclesiastical side of it, which occupies so considerable a portion of every conventual day."

The monastic buildings were constructed, the daily time-table was drawn up, and the several officers were appointed with reference to the three main purposes for which a monk professed to live,—worship, self-improvement, and work.

II

The three principal scenes of his daily life were the church, the chapter-house, and the cloister. Of each of them a brief account must suffice.

The Church.

First and foremost among the parts of a monastic establishment was the 'House of God'—the church. The church formed the centre of the religious life of the community. Its design was symbolical. The main body of the church with its transepts was cruciform. So far as the religious life was concerned, the choir* was the most important part of the church. In the centre of the choir stood the great lectern or reading-desk, from which, during the services, the lessons, *i.e.*, passages from the Bible, were chanted. The chant was directed by the Cantor and his assistants; the monks chanted solemnly, seated in the stalls which were arranged in two or more rows slightly raised one above the other.

The Cloister.†

Next in importance to the church was the cloister, or enclosure,—a covered

with all their subdivisions, the Carmelites, the Augustines, and generally all the orders created from the thirteenth to sixteenth centuries; (4) and lastly, the regular clerks, a form affected exclusively by the orders created in the sixteenth century, the Jesuits, the Théatins, the Barnabites etc., (*Cf.* Gasquet's *English Monastic life*, last chapter).

* The "choir" is a body of singers who perform the musical portion in the service of the church. In an architectural sense a "choir" is strictly that part of a church which is fitted up for the choir services and is between the choir screen and the presbytery.

† The word 'cloister' denotes the quadrilateral area in a monastery round which the principal buildings are ranged and which is usually provided with a covered way, or ambulatory, running all round and affording a means of communication between the various centres

passage, or ambulatory, running round the walls of certain portions of the monastic buildings. The name has become a synonym for monastery. The cloister was the dwelling-place of the community. In time, private cells or cubicles came into use; but in England at least, the common life of the cloister remained in full vigour till the suppression of the monasteries. For centuries the cloister was the place of business and instruction, and the parlour of all inmates of the house.

The Chapter-house.

Then there was the chapter-house, which was usually situated on the eastern side of the cloister, as near to the church as possible. It was usually a rectangular hall with seats arranged in parallel rows along the walls, or arranged in two or more rows slightly raised one above the other. At the eastern end sat the superior under a dais with the crucifix over his head. In the centre of the chapter-house stood the great raised lectern from which lessons were read before the daily chapter, *i.e.*, a religious or disciplinary conference. There, when the community assembled, 'faults were corrected, encouragement given, the labours of the community apportioned, and when occasion required, matters of common interest were discussed and arranged. [Cf. *Abbot Samson*, p. 29].

Other parts of a Monastery.

We now pass on to the less important parts of the mediaeval monastery.

The *refectory* was a hall where all conventual meals were taken. It was removed from the church as far as possible. The floor was spread with hay or rushes, which were renewed three or four times in the year. The tables were arranged lengthwise and the monks sat with their backs to the walls. At the east end, under some sacred image or a painting of the crucifixion, sat the superior of the establishment on a raised seat. Over his head hung a bell, which he sounded as a signal that the community might begin their refection, or to announce the commencement of the different courses.

In large monasteries there was another smaller refectory, where those who had been bled,* or were sick, or who by the dispensation of the superior were to have a different or better food than that served in the common hall, came to take their meals.

Near the refectory was of course the conventual kitchen. Upon the kitchener was strictly enjoined the virtue of cleanliness.

The *dormitory* was originally one long apartment where all the members of the community slept. But in time, as indicated above, private cells or cubicles came into use.

The *infirmary*, or the house for the aged and the sick, was generally presided over by a senior monk known as the infirmarian. Those who had grown old in the monastic service, found a place of rest in the infirmary, where the rule enjoined that they should be specially honoured by all.

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of ecclesiastical life without exposure to the weather. According to the Benedictine arrangement, which from its suitability to the requirements of monastic life was generally adopted in the west, one side of the clositer was formed by the church, the refectory occupying the side opposite to it so that the worshippers might have no annoyance from the noise or smell of the repasts. On the eastern side the chapter-house was placed. The cloister with its surrounding buildings stood on the south side of the church to secure as much sunshine as possible.

*The curious practice of periodical blood-letting, regarded according to mediaeval pathology as so salutary, formed part of the infirmarian's ordinary duties. The operation was performed on all four times a year. The community were operated upon in batches from two to six at a time, and the special day was arranged for by the Abbot in the chapter. The process was simple. The infirmarian with a sharp lancet opened a vein in the arm, and after removing a certain quantity of blood, applied the styptic and then fastened the bandages. During the time of healing, the discipline of the cloister was somewhat mitigated. Till his return to full work, the monk who had been bled was not bound to any duty; strengthening food was given to him during the time of his convalescence.

No religious house was complete without the *almonry*, where the poor came to beg alms in the name of Christ. Attached generally to the almonries in all great monasteries were free schools for poor boys. The almonry for the relief of the poor with a great hall annexed formed the paupers' hospitium. "The Almoner," says one custumal, "should remember that from his office might be derived great spiritual gain. He should keep before his mind Our Lord's words: 'I was hungry and ye gave me to eat.' For this reason he should ever be gentle and kind to the poor, for in them he was really ministering to the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He should endeavour to be seldom, if ever, without something to give away in charity, and he should try to keep a supply of socks, linen and woollen, and other necessaries of life, so that, if by chance Christ Himself were at any time to appear in the guise of a poor, naked, hungry man, 'He might not have to depart from His own house unfed or without some clothes to cover the rags of His poverty.'" A large almonry was regarded as the crown and glory of a mediaeval monastery.

The *guest-house*, or the building devoted to the purposes of hospitality, was a necessary part of a religious house. It was presided over by a senior monk, the guest-master, whose duty it was to keep the hall and chambers ready for the guests and attend to their wants. In the greater monastic establishments there were several places for the reception of the guests—one for the reception of distinguished guests, [*Abbot Samson*, p. 7], another for monks visiting the monastery, a third for poor travellers and pilgrims. The Abbot had rooms to accommodate distinguished guests and benefactors of the establishment; the cellarer's department had frequently to entertain merchants who came upon business to the house; a third shelter was provided for poor travellers and pilgrims; and a fourth for the monks of other religious houses. The period of a guest's stay was limited. The usual period was two days and nights; on the third day the guest was expected to take his departure. If he desired to prolong his stay, he had to obtain permission from the Abbot through the guest-master.

Another important place in the monastery was the *library*. "A monastery without a library is like a castle without an armoury," was the old monastic saying. Hence in all mediaeval monasteries we should have found libraries stored with precious manuscripts. The cantor performed the functions of warden.

III

The Abbot.

Each house was ruled by an Abbot. The title *Abbot* comes from the Syriac word '*Abba*' which means 'father,' and was used from the earliest times 'as a title appropriate to designate the superior of a religious house, inasmuch as it expressed the paternal qualities which should characterise his rule.'

The monastic system established by St. Benedict,* the great legislator and Patriarch of the Western Monks, and

* In one of his suggestive lectures, Ruskin bids his hearers note well the dates A.D. 421 and A.D. 481, for they are the years of the beginning of Venetian power and of the crowning of Clovis. "Not for dark Rialto's dukedom nor for fair France's kingdom only," he adds, "are these two years to be remembered of all others in the wild fourth century, but because they are also the birth-years of a great lady and a greater lord of all future Christendom, St. Genevieve and St. Benedict. If St. Benedict could claim any country as his own, it is England. It is superfluous to dwell upon the evangelisation of the land, or the messengers he sent hence to Germany and the North to preach the gospel, and on the schools in which he gathered his disciples, but it is necessary to recount the services rendered to England by his monks, to realise why the sage of Chelsea introduced 'Abbot Samson'—a picture of a mediaeval monastery under the government of a truly heroic figure the Abbot Samson—in his prophetic 'Pamphlet for the times.'"

The benefits conferred by the monastic orders were great. But the most visible and palpable which seize at once upon the admiration and gratitude of posterity, were the two great functions common to all the orders and to all their branches—Prayer and Alms.

The first of all the services which the monks conferred upon Christian society was that of prayer,

introduced into England by St. Augustine, A.D. 596 (*cir.*), was based upon the supremacy of the Abbot. In the phrase of St. Benedict, he stood in 'Christ's place.' His authority within the Abbey was absolute, and the community were expected to obey without question or hestitation the decision of the Abbot.

The Abbot was usually elected by the universal suffrage of his future subjects. In practice their wishes could be made known in one of the three ways; by individual voting, by the choice of several members or even of one eminent person delegated to elect in the name of the community, and [Cf. *Abbot Samson*, p. 48 and fol.] by acclamation.

Prior, however, to this election, certain preliminaries were to be gone through, which varied according to circumstances. Very frequently the founder or the patron, the descendant of the original founder, had to be consulted before the community proceeded to an election. But his permission to proceed was asked more as a formality than as a reality.

In the case of all monasteries that had temporalities, the *Dominus Rex*, the King, was regarded as the founder. On the death of the Abbot, the religious would have to make choice of representatives who should proceed to the court to inform the king of the demise and to obtain the *congé d'élire* or permission to elect. The king would first appoint officials to administer the property in his name during the vacancy, due regard being paid to the needs of the community [*Abbot Samson*, p. 31]. Certain wicked kings, like William Rufus, abused this royal prerogative known as the 'regale.' The *Dominus Rex* would next issue his license for the monks to choose a new superior.

Upon the return of the conventual ambassadors to their monastery, on a day appointed, the community assembled in the chapter-house for the election of the new Abbot. After mass had been celebrated to implore the help of God, they determined according to which of the various legitimate modes of election they should proceed; the first or the second method usually being followed.

Carlyle, in a philosophic appreciation of the monastic method of election, remarks, "This, then, is the ballot-box and electoral winnowing-machine...... a mind fixed on the Thrice Holy, an appeal to God on high to witness their meditation. By far the best and indeed the only good electoral winnowing-machine, if men have souls in them. Totally worthless, it is true, and even hideous and poisonous, if men have no souls. But without soul, alas! what winnowing-machine in human election can be of avail? We cannot get along without soul; we stick fast, the mournfullest spectacle; and salt itself will not save us." [*Abbot Samson*, p. 50.]

When the process of election had been carried out, conventual ambassadors were despatched to the King with the necessary documents to show that the process had been carried out correctly. If the petition was successful, *i.e.*, if the *Dominus Rex* assented to the choice made, the next step was to obtain confirmation from the ecclesiastical authority who was either the Bishop of the diocese, or, in the case of some monasteries, the Pope. If the ecclesiastical authorities, whose duty it was to inquire into the validity of the election and the fitness of the person chosen, were satisfied, they confirmed the election.

After formally confirming the choice, they signified their confirmation to the King, petitioning for the restitution of the temporalities to the new superior. Finally they appointed a commission to proceed to instal the Abbot in his monastery.

On the day appointed for the solemn installation, the Abbot walking barefoot presented himself at the church-door [*Abbot Samson*, p. 58]. He was there met by the community and conducted to the principal altar, where, during the singing of the 'Te Deum' (the hymn of thanksgiving), he remained prostrate. At the end of the hymn, he was conducted to a seat, and the

process of his election and confirmation was read, together with the episcopal or Papal mandate charging the monks to render him all canonical obedience and service. Then one by one the monks came, and kneeling before their new Abbot received from him the kiss of peace. The ceremony was concluded by a solemn blessing bestowed by the newly installed Abbot standing at the altar.

Within the monastery the new superior was treated with the utmost reverence by the brethren of his house; outside he ranked amongst the highest dignitaries of the land [*Abbot Samson*, p. 59]. When he appeared either in church or chapter-hall, all rose and bowed. No monk might sit in his presence or leave it without his permission. The highest place was naturally assigned to him both in church and at table. While the monks were warned by the rule to show the Abbot all reverence, he was warned that he should always remember that all the honour was paid not to him personally, but to his office and to Christ who was reverenced in him. He was charged to study with paternal solicitude the characters, actions, and needs of all the brethren, never forgetting that he must one day render to God an account of them all.

The Prior.

The Prior, or second superior of the house, was charged with the internal discipline of the monastery. He was appointed by the Abbot after consultation with the senior monks. As his office was one of great importance, he was chosen after careful deliberation. 'Let him,' says one old custumal, 'remember that the peace of the house depends upon him.' 'A true Prior,' it was frequently remarked in the old custumal, 'is a blessing to every religious house, and his presence is like that of an angel of peace.' He was assisted by a Sub-prior, and in large houses by a third [*Abbot Samson*, p. 48] and even fourth Sub-prior, whose duty it was to maintain discipline and report anything amiss. They were appointed by the Abbot in consultation with the Prior.

Other Officials.

Besides the Abbot and the Prior, there were a host of other officials known as '*obedientiaries*,' the principle being to divide duties so that as many as possible might be interested in the general welfare of the convent.

The *Cantor* or Precentor was one of the most important obedientiaries. He was the choir-master, chief librarian, and archivist. He was also one of the three custodians of the convent seal. He was assisted in his duties by an assistant known as the Succentor or Subcantor.

The *Sacristan's* main duty was the upkeep of the church and the care of all the sacred vessels, vestments, etc. Another function of his was the care of the cemetry which he had to keep neat and tidy. His most important duty, however, was that of looking after the lighting of the entire establishment. He had several assistants under him.

The *cellarer* was the purveyor of all food-stuffs for the community. [*Abbot Samson*, p. 34]. He had to provide all that was necessary for the kitchen. He had charge of all the servants, and he alone could engage, dismiss, and punish them.

The *Master of Novices* was entrusted with the training of the young monks during their probation. The eastern cloister was generally assigned to him. He taught his young pupils the usual monastic manners and customs [*Abbot Samson*, p. 29]. After these few lessons in external behaviour he drilled them in the exercise of the regular life. He inculcated on them the noble qualities which go to the making of a true monk,—self-abnegation, fortitude, devotion, solid and fervent piety, and that true independence of mind which does not conflict with filial obedience.

IV.

Daily Occupations.

The following is a bare outline of the life led in one of the great English pre-

Reformation monasteries where 'good King Harry' himself admitted that 'religion is right well kept':—

The night offices, or divine service, now known as *Matins*, morning prayer, and *Lauds*, the praises of God, began not later than two in the morning; in some monasteries they began at midnight. Two hours were spent in the solemn chanting and singing of this first portion of the divine service, after which the monks were allowed a brief *rest* till five. They then again assembled for the office of *Prime*, the first part of the divine service in the day-time, which was followed by the daily *chapter*, or religious and disciplinary conference.

After the chapter, *mass* was sung, and then *study or exercise* occupied the monks till 8 o'clock in the cloisters. The stroke of the bell then assembled them in choir for the celebration of *High Mass*. Then came the meal of the day. In the refectory strict silence was observed. The superior of the establishment presided. The monks waited in turns upon the community, and during the refection the sacred scriptures were read. 'Grace,' thanksgiving prayers after food, said, they departed to their *books*. From study they went at 3 o'clock each afternoon to chant Vespers, divine service for the evening, in the church. The evening services, like the morning services, were celebrated with great solemnity. The youth of the singing schools attached to the monastery, attended to join their voices with those of the monks. After *Vespers*, the monks returned to the cloisters till the tolling of the bell announced the evening meal. Supper ended, they departed for the chapter-house, where they remained in prayer till 6 o'clock. They then recited *Compline*, the last public prayer of the day, and devoted a brief space to private prayer, after which they retired to the dormitory for rest, till 'the bells rang at midnight and called them to Matins, and proclaimed with the new day another round of prayer and labour.'

From the Trenches.

Father Vion is still in the Wireless Section, in charge of a station near the front. He is also instructor to the new hands recruited for the wireless. He is, and has been for some time past, south of Chemin des Dames, on the Craonne Plateau, the scene of so much furious fighting in July.

Father Leroyer is in the Radiographic Section, Medical Department. He is in Champagne. He writes, under date 10th June, on his return from a week's leave, "I have just returned from leave and on arriving here, I find there is something changed. German aeroplanes, during my absence, bombed my station on four consecutive nights, from 3rd to 7th June; 5 men killed, 10 wounded, and some 70 horses killed or wounded. Several radio cars were riddled with bullets and shell fragments. One of the men, a priest, was blown into bits; the walls are all plastered with them.

The aeroplanes were flying very low, riddling the hospital with their machine-guns, while projectors and 75's were trying their best to locate them. It was a scene not to be soon forgotten by those that witnessed it.

From this you will conclude that my station is not such a safe place as some would think.

Our hospital is to move back to the rear, to Epernay. It is doubtful if the move will bring us safety, for Epernay too has been visited by enemy aeroplanes."

Sober Facts.

1. *Crows are sober.*—A marvellous discovery! Who has ever said a good word of the crow? No one, and for the simple reason that no one has ever been able to discover a virtue in the crow. 'No one!' That looks very like most generalizations; there is some truth in it, but it is just not true. The sobriety of crows is a sober fact. Observers have observed the crow, but his vices and tricks are so many and various, and so constantly combining and interacting on each other, that every day some new vice or trick has to be added to the list. The fact is that crows are so kaleidoscopically vicious that observers have not yet had time to comment on his only virtue, sobriety. It was only in the early days of the nineteenth century that the crow became a perfect teetotaler. Of course we must be cautious in giving dates in connection with a fact so stupendous. Anyhow, it was early in the nineteeth century that crows were seen drunk for the last time. Is it not very hard to find a man or woman who can vouch to the fact of having seen a crow blind drunk since about the year 1825? Surely no one in Trichinopoly; not even the most observant student in Group ii, has ever seen a crow in liquor. Had any observation of the kind been made, it would undoubtedly have been recorded in this Magazine. It is an Illinois newspaper of somewhere about 1825 that has the honour of chronicling the occasion on which crows were last seen drunk.

The story is that a retired Colonel, a sensible old gentleman as most retired old colonels with a nice little pension are supposed to be, had one of the best farms on the Illinois river. About 100 acres of it were covered with waving golden corn, and when the ear was fit for the sickle, the crows seemed determined on the destruction of the entire crop. The old Colonel was constantly up and down, and round about, everywhere in his fields. His gun had not a moment's rest on his shoulder; it was constantly blazing away in all directions, for the black crow was dotted everywhere over the golden landscape. All to no purpose. If one thief was killed, fifty came to the funeral; if a gang dispersed at the report of the gun, they all came back with the echo. The Colonel got weary of wasting powder and shot He sent for a gallon of spirits, soaked a few quarters of grain and scattered it right and left over his fields. Down came the crows as usual, and set to their usual work with their usual relish. But in a moment or two, what a wonderful sight it was! Such cawing and hawing and cackling, such a combination of sounds and cries and shrieks and screams, as no well-behaved birds had ever uttered! And such a strutting and hopping, and staggering and swaggering, and cooing and wooing, and quarrelling and fighting! No birds ever so thoroughly forgot themselves. Crowds of little boys gathered to see the fun. Some amused themselves catching crows, but they soon released them, for it was finer fun to see them staggering about on their legs or zigzagging about on their wings. Finally, the crows gathered together on the trees skirting a wood close by. There they were joined by a new recruit who was as sober as a judge on the bench. What they told him is not recorded, for they all rattled away without rhyme or reason, every one haw-haw-hawing and caw-caw-cawing the praises or the curses of alchool, one, or the other, or both; the reporter of the *Illinois Times* could not determine which. Anyhow, the Colonel's corn was saved; and from that day crows have set their faces steadily against alcohol. Not another grain would they touch in the Colonel's field; the neighbouring fields paid a heavier toll. And it seems that since then crows have too much respect for their character, black as they are, to touch liquor,—or is it perhaps only to be seen under the influence of liquor?

Whatever it be, the crow is not nowadays seen drunk anywhere on the face of the earth.

2. Books are our best friends. When they bore us, we can always shut them up.

3. It is not good to know grammar, for a foolish fellow who knew his grammar having to write a letter to a Mr. Foote and his daughters, addressed the envelope to Mr. Foote and the Miss. Feet.

4. We always receive people with more or less deference according to the style of their clothes; we sometimes take leave of them according to their merit.

5. "The telephone was in common use in Scotland even in pre-historic times, for in a mound of earth which must be the ruins of the first attempt at mud huts, a bit of wire has been recently discovered. A sober fact!" So argued a Scotchman. "A soberer fact!" argued the Irishman. "Why, in a similar heap of ruins in Ireland no trace of wire could be found. Just fancy. In pre-historic times the commonest thing in Ireland was Wireless."

6. Mr. X called his baby Macbeth, because it murdered sleep.

7. One way to cure yourself of using unkind words, is not to speak of any one but yourself.

8. Oh, the snore, the beautiful snore,
Filling the room from ceiling to floor!
Over the coverlet, under the sheet,
From the top of his head to the soles of his feet;
Now rising aloft like a bee in June,
Now sunk to the wail of a cracked bassoon;
Now, flute-like subsiding, now rising again,
Is the snore of my mate whose initial is N.

Annual Meeting of the 'Old Boys'

In the Jesuit Colleges, Chicago.

19 April 1917.

On the evening of April nineteenth, the members and guests of the Loyola University Alumni * Association assembled for the Loyola Alumni banquet.

It was with regret that the members of the Association learned from the Toastmaster that Governor Lowden and Mr. Joseph P. Griffin, who had been expected to speak at the banquet, were unable to be present. Mr. Griffin had been suddenly summoned to Washington, and Governor Lowden pleaded pressure of State business in his letter to the President of the Alumni Association:

My Dear Mr. Byrne,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March thirtieth. I greatly appreciate the honor of your invitation, and should like very much to accept it, but I shall be unable to leave Springfield for the next several months. I am engaged in reorganizing the State's business, and until I have finished this important and difficult task, I feel that I cannot accept any invitations away from here.

Please express to the members of the Association my thanks for their courtesy and my hope that I may be more fortunate at some future time.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) FRANK O. LOWDEN.

The first speaker whom the Toastmaster introduced was Mr. Homer J. Buckley, whose subject was, "The Sunny Side of Life," and he was every bit as cheerful as his topic. Other subjects treated were, "Masculinism," explained as the need of insisting on the rational foundations of faith rather than on its emotional aspects; and "Associated Catholic Charities."

* * * *

* 'Old Boys.'

It has been said that coming events cast their shadows before them. That this is not always true was proved in the case of the next speaker, Dr. George P. Gill, who came from Rockford, Ill., to recount for us "Some Experience in the War Zone." Dr. Gill did not discuss any one phase of the war, but, as his subject stated, merely told some of his experiences. It was sufficient. We have heard and read other accounts of the war and have seen films of the war; but never did they bring war home to us so vividly, nor affect us so deeply, as did that simple speech which came from a heart alive to the feelings it expressed. Simply, in a direct, unconventional manner, without the slightest oratorical pretence, he told of the things he had seen and felt, told of them in a way that made others see and feel them. Frequently he could scarcely control his voice, so intense was the emotion aroused in him by recollection of the scenes and events which he was describing. It is quite impossible to reproduce in print the feeling and the personal magnetism which were the chief charm of the doctor's speech, but his words, at least, we can reproduce in part.

. . . . I had thought that I was immune from feeling at the sight of pain; but I must confess that such intimate, continued, and repeated association with so much suffering—with such horribly mangled wrecks of those who had been great, brave, stalwart fellows—affected me more than I thought possible. This picture, contrasted with the sight of the men we saw marching, thousands strong, by our camp every day—superb specimens, trained to the minute and showing it in their every movement, in the graceful swing of their sturdy limbs as they went past, most of the time singing in unison one of the popular songs, men who sacrificed all because they considered it their duty—was a most vivid illustration of the horrors of war.

War is awful; war is horrifying. Aside from its cruelty, its enormity and its heartlessness, the terribleness and destructiveness of the weapons and methods used are appalling. In this struggle even the time-honored courtesies which have been observed in other conflicts are flung to the winds. I have listened to heartless, nauseating details of men being bayonetted or clubbed to death even while they pleaded for mercy. Acts are committed on both sides which make one realize that all our boasted civilization, advancement and culture (spell it with a *c* or a *k*) are, after all, but a thin veneer.

There used to be, or so it has been immortalized in poem and prose, a glamor and romance about the charge—the gay uniforms, the flags flying, the bands playing. But all that has changed. Now, untold numbers of men are killed outright or terribly wounded miles from the enemy they never see. Again, standing knee-deep in rain-filled trenches, their clothes and skin so caked with mud as to make personal cleanliness impossible, not only takes the heart out of the men, but often leads to fatal results, because the modern battleground has been intensely cultivated and fertilized for centuries, and the soil, therefore, teems with countless micro-organisms that contaminate even the slightest wound.

. . . . From time to time, in the lives of all, occur certain incidents that deeply affect not only individuals, but also communities. Such an incident occurred to us when, on October twenty-second, one of our nursing sisters contracted meningitis while on duty, and died within twenty-four hours. Her death was mentioned in routine orders as occurring "On duty; on active service;" and she was given a full military funeral. The simple impressiveness of the occasion will never fade from the memory of those who witnessed it. The burial took place in the officers' section of the British military graveyard for this district, which was barely a mile from our camp, within sight and sound of the sea that is forever chanting a requiem for the Heroic Dead. At that time of the year, when the delicate brush of the changing seasons was transforming the beautiful summer green of Picardy into the most exquisitely delicate rainbow tints, the background of the simple, impressive service was indeed the most beautiful of Nature's paintings—an autumn landscape. The cortege wended its way to the grave, the coffin and the physical remains of our American sister were slowly lowered, the simple burial service was uttered, and the silence was broken only by an occasional sob, which relieved the tension of a suffering heart, and by the creak of the straps that bore the weight of what had been reclaimed by the earth. The trumpeters sounded the Last Post, and as the notes of the familiar call echoed and re-echoed among the hills, every officer and soldier present standing at attention with hands at salute, they were endowed with a newer, deeper and more cheerful significance. Many eyes were dimmed that had been strangers to tears for years. Who shall say that there was one present who did not go away strengthened, fortified, purified?

. . . . In conclusion, permit me to say a word about a subject upon which I feel very strongly. It is the matter of preparedness. Let us learn from others' mistakes. It is now known to be a fact that five years ago Lord Roberts, foreseeing this war, toured the

British Isles pleading with the people to prepare. He was laughed at as an alarmist; and we all know how dearly England has paid for her folly. I say to you tonight—to you, fathers, who have sons that may be called upon to fight; do not be selfish. War is awful; but there are things worse than war. Therefore, do your part, to the end that your country may, by adequate preparation for war, insure the honor, lives, and property of its people, and the sanctity of the American home against violation by a foreign foe.

When the doctor had finished speaking, it was unanimously moved to send the following telegram to President Wilson:

Woodrow Wilson,
President of the United States,
Washington, D.C.

The Alumni Association of Loyola University pledge you this night, at its annual meeting, hearty support in all your endeavors for the welfare of our country, and assure you of the loyalty and devotion of the students, alumni, and faculty of the Jesuit colleges in Chicago.

REV. JOHN B. FURAY, S.J.,
President Loyola University.
MICHAEL V. KENNALLY,
DR. EDWARD F. GARRAGHAN,
M. MALACHY FOLEY,
Committee.

Several days later, in answer to this telegram, came a card of acknowledgment and thanks from the President.

Rev. Father Furay, the final speaker of the evening, addressed the members of the Association on the subject of "Leadership," showing the duty in this respect that educated Catholics owe to their God and to their country. Coming after Dr. Gill's talk on the war, his words made the hearts of his hearers glow as he told of the leadership in the war exercised by their fellow-alumni of Jesuit colleges in France, Belgium, and England, and showed how they can serve their country in like manner when she shall need them. But he was not satisfied with service in war: he demanded service also in peace—the service which Jesuit alumni are fitted by their training to give, the service of educated Catholic leadership. To aid in guiding and directing the thought and activity of their fellow-Catholics at least is, he declared, an obligation that they owe to their college, which has trained them; to their Church, which looks to them for assistance; and to their country, whose progress, in peace and in war, it is their duty to promote.

After the Toastmaster had called for a rising vote of thanks for the speakers of the evening, the class of 1917 * was received into the Association. And then, with the inspiring strains of *The Star-Spangled Banner* filling the room, the banquet came to a close, while both old and young Alumni agreed that it represented all that a Loyola affair should be.

... ...

The foregoing is an abridgment of the article in the Loyola Magazine. The same issue contains also the first page of Loyola Roll of Honour; 40 in the army, 5 in the Navy, 8 in the Medical Corps, 1 Signaller, 6 National Guards. The United States declared war on Germany in July, and the July Loyola Magazine was able to print the first page of its Roll of Honour!!

... .

We hope to be able to say something in December about our students in the Indian Defence Force.

* Graduates of 1917.

Editorial Notes.

The July Magazine was not out half an hour before a student appeared at the Editor's window.

"Hallo! Father, what kind of a Magazine is this?"—"Not one joke! Not a gram o' fun!"

"Why did no one answer my riddles in March? I thought you did not want anything more of that kind. Anyhow, I gave you a capital story, 'An Old Story'."

"Is it a joke?"

"By no means."

"But we want jokes."

"Do you? etc., etc.? Good-bye!"

We are in no joking humour just now, for we are going to say, in an impersonal way of course, that there was a bad blunder in our last Magazine. Instead of jokes, we have given a list of 'Sober Facts', which the unwise will take for trifling.

... ...

The statistics of the Intermediate Examinations given in July fell flat. Nobody seemed impressed by them. So much the better; they were inexact. Other figures have come to light which prove the general opinion of the slaughtering vigour of English. As soon as these figures appear in the *Syndicate Report* we shall print them in the Magazine. The error is in the figures under the heading 'Combined results' of each group. The figures we gave were taken to mean the percentages of passes in the Groups irrespective of success in English and the Vernaculars; whereas they were intended in the *Syndicate Report* to represent the percentages of passes in the Groups of such students only as had passed in both English and the Vernacular. This error vitiates our conclusion that English had never fared so badly as the Groups. But it does not affect our other conclusion, viz., that there has been a general falling off in success in all the examinations held by the University during the last few years.

... ...

We are very sorry to appear so often in our shirt-sleeves. The war is the reason why. As soon as we can get material for our greenish yellow coat again, we shall appear in our true colours. (Metaphors do get mixed somehow.) So, my dear boys, you must be patient and not grumble too much at the untidy appearance of the Magazine. When you tell me that the cover is very ugly, you waste words, for I know it quite well enough. As soon as paper of the colour chosen by the founders of the Magazine is available, we shall be ourselves again.

... ...

We are very sorry to have reached the end of Mr. Y. Ramachandra Rao's MSS. on the Lizards of South India. They were most instructive and interesting papers, much enjoyed and sought for by all our readers, except—the College students!!! That is a disastrous statement. It proves that our young gentlemen need abundance of literature on natural history. What is all this talk about industries and commmerce, if you will not look around you and learn the value of things around you. This indifference is deplorable blindness. None so deplorably blind as those who will not see.

... ...

Our illustration will, we trust, be a great success. It gives a good idea of the immense city and town of Paris. The houses and buildings stretching as far as the eye can reach will show the accommodation needed for a population of 2,888,110. Our picture shows the river Seine which is spanned by 29 beautiful bridges, and the Park of the Champs de Mars. The now famous Eiffel Tower stands out in grand relief

This colossal iron structure is the highest in the world. The platform at the summit is 985 feet above the ground. The height may be imagined if compared with the height of the Trichinopoly Rock which is 273 feet high. The Eiffel Tower was built in 1887-9; about 7000 tons of iron were used in its construction, and it cost about £ 250,000. It is of course one of the sights of Paris, but it is used for meteorological and wireless purposes. The special uses it is put to during the war have not been revealed; the censor keeps the secret. The Kaiser would no doubt have used it for his purposes, if his triumphal march to Paris had not turned into a rout. Conspicuous also in our picture is 'the great wheel', or 'the great whirligig', erected at the time of the Exhibition in 1900 and only recently removed. We hope to be able in course of time to interest our readers with other interesting views of this kind.

College Notes.

Results of the Intermediate Examination from Fort St. George Gazette 31-7-17.

A. *Appeared for the whole Examination and passed in both parts :—*

	GROUP I	II	III	TOTAL.
I CLASS.				
College ..	10	..	2	12
College and Private Study ..	2	..	..	2
II CLASS.				
College ..	19	5	45	69
College and Private Study ..	10	2	23	35
	41	7	70	118

B. *Completed a pass, by passing in one part only :—*

	I	II	III	TOTAL
College ..	2	..	4	6
College and Private Study ..	11	2	11	24
	13	2	15	30
Total A & B ..	**54**	**9**	**85**	**148**
Total for College only ..	**31**	**5**	**51**	**87**

C. *Passed Part I only :—*

College ..	5
College and Private Study ..	6
	11

D. *Passed Part II only :—*

	I	II	III	TOTAL
College ..	27	2	31	60
College and Private Study ..	8	1	17	26
	35	3	48	86
Total for C & D ..				**97**

Total and partial passes for College only	152	245
Do. Coll. & Pri Study	93	

Passed in Part I :—

College ..	92	159
College and Private Study ..	67	

Passed in Part II :—

	GROUPS I	II	III	TOTAL.
College ..	58	7	82	147
College and Private Study ..	31	5	51	87
	89	12	133	234

Percentage of passes
College only,
A, 81 out of 213 = 38·0 p.c.
Do A+B, 87 do = 40·8 ,,

B.A. Degree Examination 1917.

		SENT UP.		PASSED.	TOTAL.	
Eng.	College	187	—	72	72	=86
	Coll. & Priv	—	—	14	14	
Gr. I	College	27	—	14	14	=16
	Coll. & Priv.	—	—	2	2	
Gr. II-A	College	31	3	20	23	=26
	Coll. & Priv	—	—	3	3	
Gr. II-B	College	8	—	3	3	= 4
	Coll. & Priv.	—	—	1	1	
Gr. V	College	105	2	75	77	=89
	Coll. & Priv.	—	—	12	12	
Gr. VI	College	1	—	1	1	= 2
	Coll. & Priv.	—	—	1	1	

80 candidates completed the B.A. Examination.

The High School Association.

The Second Annual Meeting of the High School Association was held in the Digby Hall on Wednesday, 22 August, 1917. The Principal of the College, Rev. Father Bertram, was in the Chair. When the Report was read, he made an interesting speech in which he commended such school associations as the one he was addressing and recommended the adoption of out-door hobbies as well worthy of the attention of our associated school-boys.

He then called on the lecturer of the day to address the meeting. Father Quinn pointed out that a festive occasion like the present one called for a sun-shiny speech, and that he regretted that he had to deal on this particular evening with such a grave subject as "The Responsibilities of Schoolboys". However, as the programme had announced the subject, he could not but submit. With the usual vote of thanks and the picturesque ceremony of garlanding, the function was brought to a close.

The Annual Report.

We have the honour to submit to you a report of the working of the High School Association during the second year of its existence. This report covers the period of our activity from July 1916 to April 1917. We are happy to be able to say that our work during the year under report has been characterised by earnestness and energy on the part of our members, and by encouragement and sympathy from the members of the staff who have always been ready in response to our invitations to preside over our meetings. It is scarcely necessary for us to point out the necessity of a High School Association in which we can find a vent for our surplus energy and train ourselves for the meetings of the College Union. We hope that under such guidance and encouragement our Association will grow in numbers and extend its activity in various directions.

That our hopes are not vain may be inferred from the rise in the strength of the Association to 50 from 28, and in our finances to Rs. 7-12-0 from Rs. 3-8-0 in the preceding year; the expenditure rose in proportion, to Rs. 4-15-5 from Rs. 0-13-6. The increase in strength and finance testify to the popularity which the Association gained in the second year of its existence.

We held 15 meetings during the year: two business meetings, three extraordinary meetings, and ten ordinary meetings. Eight essays were read in English and two in Tamil. The first lecture was given by M. R. Ry. S. Arpudaswami Udayar Avl., Asst. Professor of English in the College, on "Tennyson's Idylls of the King"; it was very exhaustive and enlightening. The second lecture was in Tamil by M. R. Ry. T. S. Ramachandra Aiyar Avl. on "The Duties of Schoolboys," which was very instructive. The third lecture was delivered by Father Quinn S.J., the Professor of English in our College, and happily our lecturer of to-day. On that occasion he spoke on "School-boys and their Work". His lecture was really interesting and highly instructive. We gladly take this opportunity to thank these three gentlemen for their great kindness in responding to our request to address us.

It is our pleasant duty to thank all those that have contributed in any way to the success of to-day's function, and those that have kindly presided over our meetings. I cannot but make special mention of M. R. Ry. V. D. Venkatasubrahmania Aiyar Avl. B.A., L.T., to whom we owe all the success that has attended the work of the Association. We also thank very heartily the Rev. Father Head-master for his sympathetic interest in our Association and his ready willingness to place the Digby Hall and study-halls at the disposal of the Association for its meetings.

Finally, our grateful thanks are due to Father Quinn who has shown his active and abiding sympathy in the

welfare of the Association by consenting to lecture to us on a very important subject to-day, and to the Rev. Father Bertram, our Principal, for his kind condescension to preside at this anniversary meeting in spite of his multifarious duties.

I shall conclude this report with a brief account of the several meetings :

1. 4th July, 1916—a business meeting under M. R. Ry. V. D. Venkatasubrahmaniaiyar Avl., B.A., L.T., as president, to elect office-bearers for the year.

2. 3rd Aug.—D. Balasubrahmanian read an essay on *Debating Societies,* when M. R. Ry. A. Savarinathan Avl. B.A. presided. The piece for declamation was *Antony's speech.*

3. 18th Aug.— R. Krishnaswamy read an essay on *Lib raries and their Uses.* M. R. Ry. Raman Menon Avl., B.A. presided. '*The Seven Stages of Man*' was declaimed.

4. 23rd Aug.— A. Vydhyanathan read an essay on 'செல்வம்' in Tamil. M. R. Ry. T. S. Ramachandra Aiyar Avl., diploma in Commerce, presided. தேவாரம் was sung at the commencement of the meeting.

5. 5th Sept.—R. Ramaswami read an essay on *Duty.* M. R. Ry. P. A. Subrahmaniam Aiyar Avl., presided. *The Battle of Hohenlinden* was declaimed.

6. 18th Sept.—V. A. Vydhyanathan read an essay on *Education.* M. R. Ry. T. M. Radhakrishna Aiyar Avl., presided. The declamation was *The Burial of Sir John Moore.*

7. 5th Oct.—M. R. Ry. S. Arpudaswami Udayar Avl., B.A., L.T. gave a discourse on *The Idylls of the King* by Tennyson.

8. 10th Oct.—R. Sivasubrahmanian read an essay on *Patriotism.* M. R. Ry. K. Ramaswami Aiyar Avl., presided.

9. 19th Oct.— Gopala Krishnan read a biography of 'திருநாவுக்கரசுநாயனார்' in Tamil. The late M.R.Ry. N. Sethurama Aiyar Avl., Tamil Pandit of the National High School, presided. Sanskrit slokas were recited at the commencement of the meeting. We regret to note here the death of this gentleman a few days afterwards. We offer our condolence to the members of his family.

10. 1st Nov.—Madhava Rao read an essay on *The Life of Napoleon.* M.R.Ry. P. A. Ganesa Aiyar Avl., B.A., L.T. presided. *On the Eve of Waterloo* was the piece for declamation.

11. 9th Nov.—Krishnamachari read a paper on *The Sanctity of Work.* M. R. Ry. K. Rengaswami Aiyangar Avl., presided. The piece for declamation was *The True Gentleman.*

12. 16th Nov. 1916— M. R. Ry. T. S. Ramachandra Aiyar Avl., gave a lecture on 'மாணக்கர் கடமை' in Tamil.

13. 18th Jan. 1917— Rev. Fr. Quinn, S.J., delivered a lecture on *Schoolboys and their Work.*

14. 7th March—Mr. Gangadar read an essay on *The Press.* Mr. S. S. Sreenivasa Aiyar B.A. presided; the piece for declamation was the *Soliloquy* of *Alexander Selkirk.*

15. 4th April—the fifteenth and last meeting of the Association was held by the Managing Committee. M. R. Ry. V. D. Venkatasubrahmania Aiyar Avl., presided.

Old Boys.

Many of our Readers doubtless remember Joachim Saldanha, our best actor in his time and the Elocution prizeman in 1913. On leaving the College in 1914, he joined the Dehra Dun Forest College. He passed the final Examination in Forestry and is now Range Forest Officer, Ankola North Kanara (Bombay Pres.). Congratulations and best wishes.

Obituary.

It is with regret that we record the death, in the Boarding House, on Wednesday the 5th inst., of Verghese Kandathil — II University Class — brother of Dr. Augustine Kandathil, Co-adjutor Bishop of Ernakulam. The death was unexpected. The deceased was suffering from fever for about a week, but he did not realise its seriousness until his friends, noticing his failing cheerfulness and evident signs of very bad health, advised him to get good medical treatment. He entered the infirmary on the 1st of September and died on the 5th.

A good Catholic, a young man of high ideals and of gentlemanly manners, Verghese made friends wherever he went and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was specially known to his brother-boarders for a student of wide reading and of kindly conversational talents. Everyone in the Boarding House recollects a pleasing discussion or conversation with him. In discussion his happy illustrations from domestic life, his quotations from well-known authors, and his logical thoroughness gave him advantages over others which anyone else might have made an unpleasant use of. His strong principles so kindly expressed sank into the minds of his friends. All the boarders deeply feel his loss; they know they shall not soon meet his like.

We offer our heartfelt condolence to his bereaved parents and brothers, especially to His Lordship, Bishop Augustine Kandathil.

Ignatius, W. P.
III U. C.

Father Sewell Memorial Fund.

N. S. Narayanaswamier Esq., Chairman, Municipal Council, Tuticorin			(*Paid*)	Rs.	15
Cruz Fernandez Esq., Tuticorin	...	...	„	„	15
Gaitan Villavarayar Esq., Tuticorin	...	...	„	„	10
B. Subbarayalu Naidu Esq., Tinnevelly	...	...	„	„	7
T. S. Pichan Chettiar Esq.	...	...	„	„	3
P. T. Srinivasa Aiyangar Esq., M.A.	...	...		„	50
E. L. R. Thornton Esq.	...	...	(*Paid*)	„	25
Mark Hunter Esq.	...	...	„	„	20
Francis Dewsbury Esq.	...	...	„	„	15
Hon. Justice T. V. Seshagiri Iyer, Avl.	...	...	„	„	15
K. Chinnaswami Aiyar, M.A., Madura	...	...	„	„	1

V. Krishnaswami,
For the Committee.

The Father Sewell Memorial Committee are under great obligations to T. H. LeMesurier Esq., of the S.I.R., for granting passes to Mr. V. Krishnaswami travelling in the interest of the Memorial and thus substantially contributing to the Fund.

F. BERTRAM, S.J.,
Principal.

Reviews.

The Mysore University Magazine. —We have been asked to review the first issue of this Magazine, but the Magazine of an affiliated college dare not sit in judgment on the merits of a University Magazine. We shall be happy if we succeed in bringing it to the notice of those whom it may interest or who can profit by its learned pages. The first number, Feb. 1917, is profusely illustrated. The frontispiece is an excellent portrait of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, the Chancellor of the University. The plans of the University are instructive, very clear, and sufficiently detailed. *The Editorial Notes* are an object lesson for us; they repay the reading. They contain a selection of recent authoritative pronouncements on University matters. The first article, *The Mysore University: Its Origin and Constitution*, is a piece of history to which Indian educationists will have frequently to refer. The other articles are serious work on serious subjects; but *Some Customs of Scotch Students* is in a lighter vein. The *Science Notes* are indeed only notes. They are collected from many quarters; some of them are of a very practical nature. *News from the Colleges* takes the place of our *College Notes*; so it should be in a University Magazine. A publication like this is bound to live and thrive; we need not be uneasy about its horoscope.

The Editorial Board is composed of Mr. T. Denham, Editor-in-chief, and three gentlemen from the Maharaja's College and two from Central College.

The Mysore University Magazine is issued in February, August, and November.

Copies of the Magazine can be obtained from the University Office, Mysore, and at the P. T. I. Book Depot, Bangalore.

Price, eight annas; annual subscription, one rupee eight annas; postage extra.

* * *

Passages for Précis Writing, By R. S. Price, 12 annas.

This book will be useful to students of the difficult art of Précis-writing and epitomizing. It contains 75 prose selections of appropriate length for the purpose. The selections are from a great variety of authors, and have been chosen not only as specimens of style and composition, but also of things worth knowing and thoughts worth thinking.

The book is for sale in the Office of the Manager, St. Mary's High School, Georgetown, Madras.

* * *

Pre-Mussalman India, By M. S. Nateson. Price, Rs. 1-8-0.

The intention of this book, so far as we understand the preface, the introduction, and chapter I, is to give so much of the natural history of Indian society in pre-Mussalman times as can be pieced together from the sacred literature of the country.

The usual theories of political and social origins in India are referred to and opposed to each other so as to lead to the conclusion that nothing can be known of Ancient Indian History, and that the endeavours of Orientalists are folly. In Appendix iii the writer assumes the impossibility of 'historical finds' in archaeology, philology, and in the oldest literature of the country, even in epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, and says "You will find no antiquarian twaddle in my book." Twaddle is not wanted in history or anywhere else. Our notion of history, of Indian

history like all other history, is that it is the work of the antiquarian.

This book has received high commendations from those who hold the writer's views. Our views as to the nature and purpose of history are different from his; though we agree with him when he says that "there is no history of India, strictly speaking, prior to the Mussalman conquest," it is, however, with the restriction that we believe the sources are being at present carefully and with some success investigated by those who are working at the sciences auxiliary to history. Whether their endeavours will ever get beyond the stage of hypothesis remains to be seen.

We take it for granted that the preface, the introduction, and the appendix iii are not intended for children, but only the 25 short chapters of the book. These chapters contain the information usually given to children in schools, but in a briefer form than usual.

Exchanges.

Lumina, April and June 1917, Cleveland, Ohio.

Loyola University, Chicago, July 1917.

The Children's Friend, Cuddalore, June 1917.

Notice.

R. C. No. 1092/R. of 1917.

TRICHINOPOLY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.

Dated 19th March, 1917.

From

E. S. LLOYD ESQUIRE, I.C.S.,

Collector of Trichinopoly.

To

The Editor,

St. Joseph's College Magazine,

Trichinopoly.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a leaflet on the "Madras War Fund Stamp" and to request that you will be good enough to publish it in your reviews and magazines.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) DAVID,

for Collector.

Madras War Fund Stamp.

His Excellency Lord Pentland, as President of the Madras War Fund, has asked us to announce that the Madras War Fund Stamp will shortly be issued and be for sale.

The Stamp was designed by Mr. W. S. Hadaway, Superintendent, School of Arts, Madras, and shows the "Madras" steaming along, with "Madras War Fund" inscribed along the top centre, with a life-buoy of the ship in each upper corner, and the Red Cross in each lower corner and "HALF ½ ANNA" along the centre bottom line on a scroll.

The dies for the stamp have been struck by the Hyderabad State Mint, where it is being printed free of cost by the generosity of His Highness the Nizam.

In the name of the subscribers, His Excellency hopes that all the leading firms and establishments in Madras will undertake to sell these stamps as is done in Bombay. The success attained there should stimulate every one in this Presidency to endeavour to surpass the efforts of Bombay, where over a lakh has already been obtained for the Bombay Presidency War Relief Fund by the sale of their stamps. The whole cost of production in Bombay was met by business firms and a most generous reception was accorded to the Stamp itself. One firm alone took Rs. 950 of the stamp, and another undertook to affix them to every shipping order issued by them, while many firms enclosed notices of the stamp in their correspondence. All shops, clubs, hotels, etc., sell them and have distributed posters and handbills. Cinema proprietors sell them in each performance and all the papers do their best to promote the sale, which every one can help by affixing a stamp as a seal to their ordinary correspondence.

Stamps will be sold bound up in books containing 32 stamps and will be procurable in this form from the Honorary Secretary, Madras War Fund Stamp, Government House, Madras.

Stamps will also be procurable from the Local Secretaries of the Ladies' Depot of the Madras War Fund, and His Excellency takes this opportunity of asking the Secretaries to kindly undertake this work in addition to the help they are already giving to the Fund.

The arrival of the Stamp will be notified in due course and applications for books of stamps will then be gratefully received.

It must be clearly understood that the Stamp cannot be used as a postage stamp but merely as a seal to the letter to which it is affixed, to show that the writer is subscribing to the War Fund by buying and using the Stamp; also by this means he will be advertising the Stamp and the War Fund all over the Presidency.

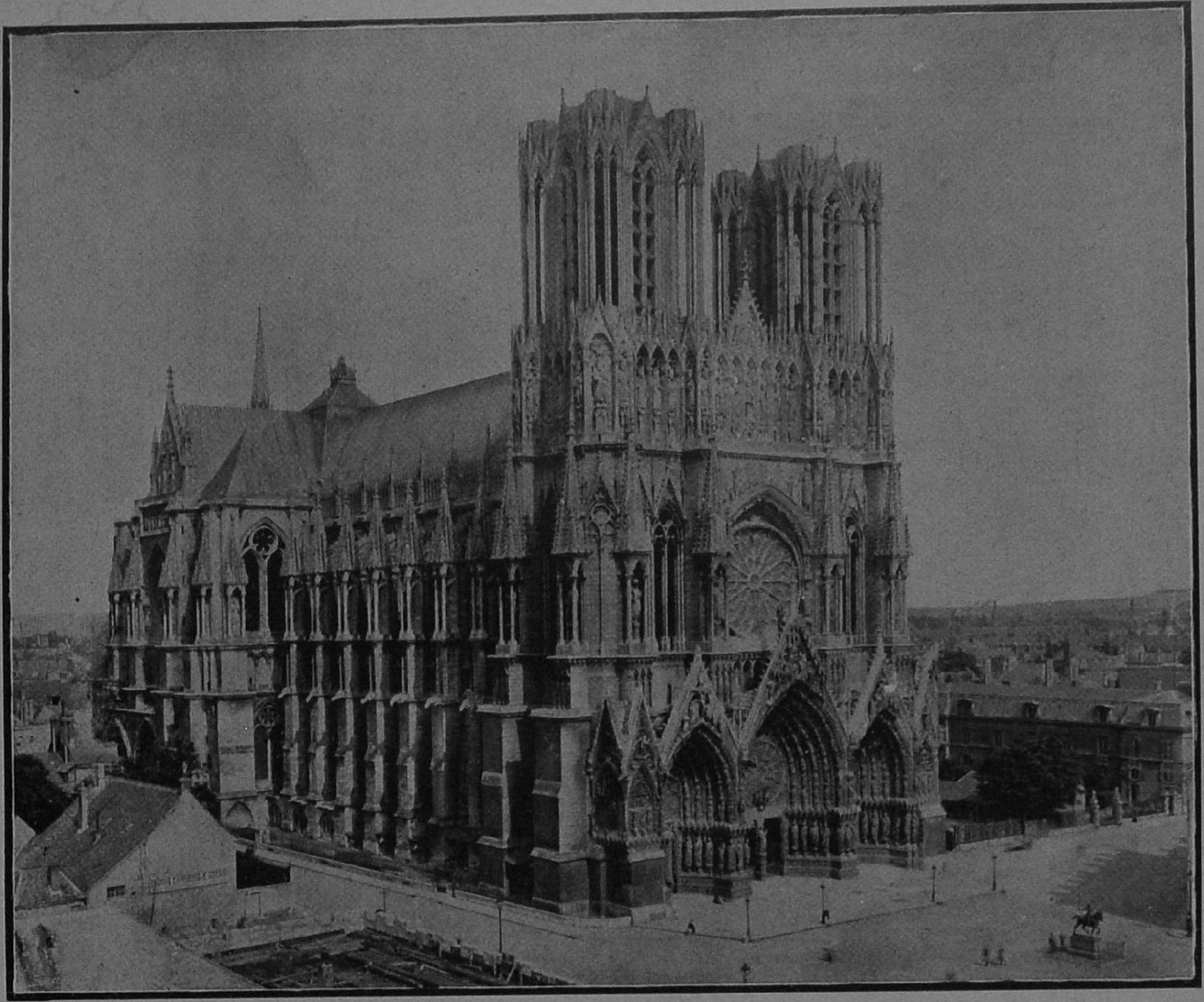
(Sd.) L. M. Peet, Captain

Govt. House, Madras
19th February 1917.

Hon. Secretary Madras War Fund Stamp.

(True Copy).

(Signed) DAVID,
For Collector.



RHEIMS CATHEDRAL.